



**Batterer Intervention Program Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2025; 9:00 am to 11:11 am
Remote video meeting**

In Attendance: Saydyie DeRosia, Jennifer Hopkinson, Chris Huffine, Scott Hyde, Maureen Lowell, Eric Mankowski, Nichelle Moore, Marci Nelson, Shannon Sivell

Absent: Amy Benedum, Vivien Bliss, Jon Hanson, Keri Moran-Kuhn

Guest: Trista Davis, Sarah Greenwood, Mike Norman, Stephanie Nelson, Angelica Quintero, Zuzana Zilkova

Minutes: Sherree Rodriguez

Welcome/Opening

Eric Mankowski welcomed the group and conducted introductions for all the guests.

Minutes from the December 13, 2024, and December 20, 2024, meetings were approved to be posted on the website.

United States/United Kingdom Domestic Violence Intervention Presentation – Zuzana Zilkova

Zuzana Zilkova, PhD researcher from the Center for Research into Violence and Abuse, at Durham University in England, shared this area of her expertise. Her work involves comparing the United Kingdom (UK) and United States (US) similarities and differences in her area of study. Zilkova has interviewed facilitators and conducted active lab research in both places, comparing practices and results.

Differences showed that Oregon has a primary focus on male perpetrators of violence against women while the UK is inclusive of all genders, and relationship types, including adolescent to parent violence and intergenerational abuse. The UK has a broader program structure and offers accreditation and pays for participation costs; Oregon does not. Oregon has little victim support beyond safety assurances, while the UK has integrated and coordinated perpetrator and victim support.

Zilkova's research is done to expand knowledge of the relational dynamics that make holding men who abuse women accountable. Her goal is that this knowledge will be shared and learned by informal interveners in prevention efforts, to eventually form the basis of a "public first aid" to this problem. She feels this research can also help in professional practice. The group engaged in a discussion surrounding the presentation along with questions and answers.

Limited English Proficiency/BIP Participation

Guests from Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) participated in the meeting: from the Refugee Child Welfare Advisory Committee, Mike Norman and Stephanie Nelson, and International Case Consultant for ODHS Child Welfare, Angelica Quintero, as well as Domestic Violence Intervention Coordinator with Child Welfare, Sarah Greenwood. The ongoing problem of how to serve non-English or Spanish speaking participants in batterer intervention programs (BIPs) was raised. Translators lack of understanding of the information they are translating often leads to mistranslations. Separating participants into a one-on-one treatment because of the language barrier is far less effective than participating in groups with others speaking the same language. Another barrier is cultural differences, which may have differing customs and laws related to domestic violence in their country of origin.



ODHS hopes to create a training that would attract people from the various cultural groups who might then be in position to become facilitators for BIP groups. They stressed the need for BIP services across the state in various languages.

The refugee resettlement factor has created many complex nuances. There are established organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area who can provide some expertise and advice. Oregon could collaborate with them. Maureen Lowell offered to reach out to make the connection.

The ODHS guests all agree that ongoing dialogue with the BIP AC is important in order to work on solutions.

The April 25th agenda will continue the translation challenges conversation, with the ODHS guests invited to return. In addition, they will review a situation related to a BIP refusing ODHS payment for a participant.

ACTIONS:

- Members interested in partnering for legislative funding requests for BIP translation services can reach out to Sarah Greenwood at sarah.greenwood@odhs.oregon.gov.
- The Advisory Committee will review the need non-English speaking BIP services in the Division 87 standard changes.

Meeting adjourned at 11:11 am.