



**NCPAT Minutes  
11/6/09**

**IMPACT, Charlotte**

Attending: Ellen Elliott, Chair, LifeSkills Counseling; Bea Coté, Secretary, The Be There Group/IMPACT; Donovan Grant, NOVA; Ruth Phelps, Family Guidance Center; Kathleen Balogh, Guest, NCCFW/DVC.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

**II. Regional reports and program updates** – Donovan reported that NOVA no longer has an Aftercare program. They are opening up their parenting classes to all of their clients, not just the CPS-involved clients they were serving. Ruth reports her agency is operating 2 BIP groups weekly. They have a steady stream of referrals, including self-referrals. Kathleen asked if anyone had groups in languages other than English and Spanish. This led to a discussion about the “non-discriminatory” policy and if this applies to private agencies not receiving government funds. Those in attendance expressed serious reservations about their ability to pay for language interpretation services for clients. The cost would be much more than the fees clients pay.

**III. Treasurer’s report and membership** – no report submitted

**IV. Officer Position Replacements** – Ellen reminded the committee that elections were to have been done July 2009. Group examined the possibility of doing nominations on-line. Due to delays and lack of interest, it was determined that if those present, who are active members, were interested in being nominated for the vacant positions we would proceed without a quorum.

**-Donavan Grant** accepted nomination for Chair.

**-Ellen Elliott** offered to continue her involvement, but as Vice-Chair.

**-Ruth Phelps** accepted nomination as Secretary.

Ellen will ask Joe if he can continue on as Treasurer. New officers will carefully review by-laws for election and meeting procedures.

## V. Continuing Goals for NCPAT

- **Training opportunities; looking ahead**

The membership present decided to offer regional trainings the Saturday after each scheduled meeting, which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the first month of the quarter. Charlotte will offer the first one January 16<sup>th</sup>. The April meeting and training will take place in the Asheville area. We would like for all certified BIP's in those regions to participate. Trainings will include a self-care component and will be divided into 2 sections so that participants can attend one or both. Regions will be responsible for offering to provide training or trainer. This will be a wonderful opportunity for group facilitators and staff to get their required continuing education hours.

- **Increasing membership/support**
- **Purpose of NCAPT**

## VI. NC Council for Women/DV Commission update- *Kathleen Balogh*

The Director, Mel Chilton, has left the NCCFW/DVC and a new director has been selected, though an announcement has not yet been made. Kathleen reports an heightened interest at the state level regarding the co-occurrence of DV and substance abuse. The ABC Board director has shown interest in collaborations. The Women's Conference, traditionally held in Charlotte, will move to a state level and maybe be called the "Governor's Conference". There is renewed interest in reviving a position for coordination of abuser treatment programs. Kathleen continues to advocate for a name change from "abuser treatment" to "batterer intervention", but this change will require legislative approval.

Nancy Woodard, administrator with Dept. of Community Corrections, has also reached out to the CFW/DVC about future partnership efforts. Kathleen will talk to her about possible training.

## VII. Best Practices suggested by the Council for Women/DV Commission; *Kathleen Balogh*

The Best Practices Committee has been on hiatus due to State travel restrictions. Kathleen reviewed results of surveys of certified BIP's on services to DSS client. She'll forward as much as she can to the group next week. Most programs are not reimbursed for testifying in DSS cases. Kathleen distributed the new ATP renewal application, which can now be completed on line, printed and mailed. A new application is also available. New stats should be posted soon. She finds it distressing that so few programs do victim safety checks. She'll call these programs to urge their

compliance with these requirements. There are currently 81 counties that have BIP programs.

#### **VIII. Additional Business**

- **Regulating assessments-** Bea Coté

Bea brought up and Kathleen acknowledged there are a number of DSS county agencies that are asking BIP's to do "assessments"; that is, requesting that these BIP/ATP providers assess whether or not there is DV. Some don't believe they have the authority to first make that determination themselves, and then refer a client to the BIP for services. Participating agencies aren't set up for assessments, and there's no regulatory process. Our intakes do include a lethality assessment, but this is all based on the client already having taken some degree of responsibility and acknowledgment of DV offenses. This could be a huge liability risk.

- **Facilitator self-care-** Ellen proposed we address this in future trainings.

#### **IX. Next meeting, date and site**

Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>; Charlotte

#### **X. Adjournment**

Thanks to our hosts, Bea Coté and her staff.