



**Batterer Intervention Program Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2024; 9:00 am to 10:26 am
Remote video meeting**

In Attendance:

Amy Benedum, Vivien Bliss, Melissa Erlbaum, Chris Huffine, Eric Mankowski, Marci Nelson, Shannon Sivell

Absent: Saydyie DeRosia, Aaron Hartman, Vanessa Timmons

Minutes: Sherree Rodriguez

Guests: Keri Moran-Kunz

Welcome/Opening

The Batterer Intervention Program (BIP) Advisory Committee (AC) convened a special meeting to address concerns related to the BIP Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs), both the current version and the relationship of this version to development of the standards for women and other genders.

BIP Standards OAR Review:

The group discussed important points of consideration. Specifics noted included:

- There are two sets of standards that are under consideration: the current BIP OARs in effect, designed for male batterers, and the proposed OAR draft for women who use force.
- The BIP subcommittee that worked on the document for women using force initially set out to create a separate set of standards for women. Participants all coalesced around concerns related to how a separate set of standards could be used in a harmful way by male perpetrators. Research shows that most women arrested for domestic violence are secondary aggressors, while the opposite is true for men. Because of safety concerns and to avoid compromising the standards for men, they decided to keep the female standards as similarly worded as possible, while still addressing the basic differences.
- Both the subcommittee and the AC have noted that the wording of the original standards has significant outdated and problematic language.
- Providing clarity between aspirational goals and requirements for BIP's is important.
- Most of the substance of the current OARs is necessary.
- Local supervisory authorities (LSA's) find it very difficult to hold programs to the standards, as most BIPs find them unattainable due to staffing and funding limitations. It would be valuable to find a way to simplify this for them.
- The subcommittee wants to avoid the use of the word, "batterer" for women, and had hoped for collaboration from the larger group.

Decisions made:

The group will primarily use [Eric's link to the BIP OAR Standards](#) for review, making side notes for problematic wording, sections that might be considered aspirational or educational, or other



proposed changes. Those without access to it can do so separately and bring their input to the group.

Membership:

Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors is in the process of establishing new leadership. Aaron Hartman will leave the position and a new person will take his place soon. Because of this, he is leaving his position on the BIP AC.

Jon Hansen, of Department of Corrections, as expressed interest in committee membership. Jon serves in a role of oversight for BIPs. The group approved his membership.

ACTIONS:

- Sherree will provide a summary document taken from the Subcommittee notes with concerns raised by that group. This will be sent to the group in preparation for the April 26th meeting.
- Sherree will process Jon Hansen's membership approval and provide notification.

Next meeting:

The group will proceed with review of the standards, addressing gaps in the current standards.

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 am.