

Attachment B

Ohio IPV Collaborative Final Report

Alternative Response Ohio IPV Collaborative Request for Applications to Participate as a Project Site

Background and Scope

The National Center for Adoption Law & Policy, as facilitator for this project, requests applications from Alternative Response pilot counties interested in participation in the Ohio IPV Collaborative as a project site. Project sites will work with other Ohio counties and project facilitators to:

- ✓ Build agency and community capacity to address the intersection of domestic violence and child maltreatment, particularly within the context of an Alternative Response child protection model;
- ✓ Develop a model response plan that can be replicated in other Ohio counties;
- ✓ Participate in a Planning Group that will serve as an Advisory Group in developing the model plan.

During the course of AR implementation, several pilot counties have identified needs and requested technical assistance and/or training opportunities specific to the intersection of domestic violence and child protection concerns. In response to county requests, Casey Family Programs has extended its support to assist Ohio in developing an "Ohio Collaborative" to expand agency and community capacity in relation to Intimate Partner Violence. The overall objective of this initiative is to develop a model response plan in relation to Intimate Partner Violence when addressed through an Alternative Response pathway. The initiative will explore avenues for building internal agency capacity as well as community partnerships and resource development. Although the project will be targeted specifically at AR counties, the collaboration plan developed from this initiative may be used as a model to implement Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) response programs statewide. The project is currently under development and is scheduled to conclude June 30, 2010.

Project Activities

Two to three project sites will be selected from among the ten AR pilot counties to engage in the design and implementation of a community response plan to address Intimate Partner Violence.

Selected sites will be provided the tools and resources needed to develop their community plan. Project sites will work with outside consultants providing technical assistance to establish IPV/DV resource capacity both within the PCSA and the broader community. Technical assistance will be provided at no cost to the participating counties. Technical assistance provided to project sites will be based on David Mandel's ***Safe and Together*** consultation model, designed to "support the agency's mission to promote the safety, permanency and well-being of children by improving case practice, elevating staff competencies and addressing practice, policy and resource challenges."¹ Consultants will work with agency staff to develop a model that:

- Addresses the entire family unit;
- Helps staff identify the impact of domestic violence on the children;
- Assists staff in developing plans to intervene with the perpetrator, create effective partnerships with the protective parent, and meet the needs of the children in the home;

¹ Connecticut Department of Children and Families Domestic Violence Consultation Initiative: A State Child Welfare Agency Response to Domestic Violence. David Mandel, MA, Statewide Services Administrator, March 2008.

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- Assists staff in developing plans that are culturally competent and sensitive to the intersection of domestic violence and mental health issues and substance abuse.

We recognize that counties often share common community resources. Please note that, if appropriate, two counties may work in partnership on a co-application to become a project site. If counties are submitting together as one project site and the site is selected for the project, there may be some travel required between counties for staff training and consulting opportunities.

Project sites will also participate in a statewide Planning Group that will serve as an Advisory Group to the project. The Planning Group will be responsible for developing a broad-based model plan that may be replicated statewide. The Planning Group will consist of members from both AR counties and non-AR counties.

In addition to the project demonstration sites and Planning Group activities, several educational and training opportunities will be provided to counties under the auspices of the project. For example, workshops on advanced assessment and interviewing skills will be offered to all AR counties, regardless of their participation in the Planning Group or as a project site.

Project Objectives

- Develop worker response skills, particularly in relation to DV/IPV concerns
- Engage service providers and assist community partners in developing programs and services that effectively address DV/IPV concerns
- Develop screening and response protocols in relation to IPV/DV-related cases
- Establish capacity within the child welfare agency as an IPV resource using technical assistance and consultation from both Ohio and nationwide experts and resources
- Provide training for agency staff in order to support a sustainable Model DV/IPV Response Plan that will continue after consultation and technical assistance concludes.
- Collaborate with community partners to develop a sustainable Model IPV Response Plan that:
 - a. Establishes a common vision among community partners who work with families on an ongoing basis
 - b. Includes strategies for meeting the needs of children and non-offending parents as well as strategies for improving responses to batterers
 - c. Identifies and utilizes existing local and statewide resources as appropriate
 - d. Includes instruction for batterer intervention counselors, and
 - e. Develops a structure for peer case review and/or an equivalent as identified by jurisdiction

Submission and Evaluation of Applications

- Project site applications must be sent in Word or PDF format via email to the Project Administrator, Carla Carpenter at ccarpenter@law.capital.edu.
- Please see application instructions on the following page for a full description of what should be included in your application.
- Applications must be received by 5:00 pm, Friday, November 6, 2009.
- Each applicant will receive an electronic confirmation of receipt of the proposal. If you do not receive the confirmation within 48 hours of submission please contact Carla at ccarpenter@law.capital.edu or 614-236-6541.
- Proposals need be no more than 5 pages in length.
- Proposals should include a contact name, phone number and email.

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- Proposals will be evaluated by the three member team overseeing the project.
- The applicants will be notified of their selection to participate in this project by Monday, November 16, 2009.

Alternative Response Ohio IPV Collaborative Application Instructions

Please address the following three areas and limit your response to 5 pages. Please note: counties may apply individually or in partnership to become project sites. If you are applying with a partnering county, please address in your application: (1) Existing partnerships and shared resources between the two counties and (2) How both counties will contribute to and benefit from sharing project resources, including training and consulting resources.

I. Internal Capacity

Please describe your agency's current capacity to implement a community collaboration response plan to Intimate Partner Violence. Please assess the agency's ability:

- To engage community resources and partners to develop a community response plan.
- To develop a commonality of vision within and among community partners who work with families on an ongoing basis.
- To develop an internal infrastructure to implement response protocols.
- To assess staff commitment to engage all family members, including the batterer, in an effort to strengthen the family, when it is safe to do so.
- Please identify areas where technical assistance would be necessary or helpful for your agency to fully implement this project.

II. Community Capacity

This initiative will foster partnership and collaboration among community service providers and other community resources. While selection in this project is not contingent on existing resource capacity, it is helpful to know what relevant resources or services are available in your community. Please list any service providers that you intend to partner with or that you are currently partnered with specifically to respond to domestic violence. *(Please note: We are hoping to engage project sites with varying levels of resources, and it is not a requirement for counties to have a wide service array in the community in order to be selected as a project site.)* You may wish to include:

- Information about available programs, resources, or services in your county that would be relevant to this project.
- Existing resources and programs available in neighboring counties that are utilized by your agency that would be relevant to the project.
- Descriptions of any current partnerships or future partnerships that this project may help cultivate.
- Identification of how technical assistance would be helpful in engaging community partners.
- The impact, if any, that AR has had on the agency's relationship with service providers.
- Your assessment of service providers' ability and willingness to engage in this process.

III. Vision for the Project

Please provide a description of your overall vision, goals and objectives for this project, should your agency be selected as a project site. You may wish to consider:

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- Professional development opportunities, including training, knowledge, or skills development for agency staff and/or community partners
- Potential impact on the way your agency engages existing community partners
- Long-term impact on services or resources available in your community
- Projected impact on worker practice skills, interventions with families and case outcomes