

Domestic Violence Offender Treatment *Gaps*



CURRENT PROGRAMS

What is available in Whatcom County:

Four certified treatment programs

Bellingham

- Violence Intervention Professionals
- Relationship Resources (currently not operating)

Blaine

- Waterfront Counseling

Lummi Nation

- Lummi Behavior Accountability Program
(unclear if operating)

GAPS and BARRIERS

- Expensive for participant – low pay for provider (approximately \$150 - \$175 for an evaluation and \$ 40 - \$85 per group)
- Not available – hard to get a call back
- Not consistently or timely reporting to probation
- One size fits all programs
- No clear positive outcomes – numbers count only
- No/limited connection with victims
- Lack of community accountability
- No Spanish groups and limited interpreter
- No individual treatment
- No treatment for juveniles
- Unclear and inconsistent program models
- Limited locations

NEW WAC – KEY CHANGES

WAC 388-60 (drafted for 2018)

- Clarifies qualifications for all direct treatment providers
- Adopts a thorough and specific interview and assessment criteria to determine treatment need
- Requires a Level of Care based on assessment

NEW WAC – PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Treatment Programs must:

- Use evidence-based or promising practices in all levels of treatment
- Use a trauma-informed approach in treatment
- Cover topics specified in the relevant WAC
 - Examples for Levels One & Two:
 - Belief systems that allow & support violence against women or others
 - Definitions and forms of abuse, battering and DV
 - Impact of abuse on children
 - Accountability for participants' choices & behaviors
 - Respectful relationships
 - Empathy building
 - Beliefs used to justify abusive behavior

NEW WAC – LEVELS OF CARE

Level of Care	Risk of Lethality & Recidivism	Treatment Facilitator	Group Considerations	Minimum Length
One	Low; No history	Staff or Supervisor	May be combined with level two treatment	6 months
Two	Low to Medium	Staff or Supervisor	May be combined with level one treatment	12 months
Three	High	Supervisor	May be incorporated into lower or higher level treatment group	12 months
Four	High; Sociopathic Behaviors	Supervisor	Does not benefit from traditional DV interventions; Must be separate from participants in levels one & two.	18 months

SOME BEST PRACTICES

Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)

- Cognitive-behavioral group counseling program
 - Focus on changing behavior by changing beliefs
 - Goals are enhanced moral reasoning, better decision making, appropriate behavior
- 24 modules
- Facilitators must complete 32-hour training program

Duluth Model

- Individual and group counseling
- Focus on control and gender roles
- Requires a Coordinated Community Response for accountability

Motivational Interviewing combined with CBT

- CBT group sessions and individual MI sessions
- Goal oriented
- Client defined

NEXT STEPS

1. DVSAS will continue to research the feasibility of offering domestic violence offender treatment including finding program funding.

- Riverstix/ Whatcom Community Foundation for program pilot
- Whatcom County Health Department
- Insurance coverage
- Whatcom County and City of Bellingham Jail Alternatives
- Participant contribution (sliding scale to 0\$)

2. DVSAS will convene a steering committee

(Confirmed attendance from DV Commission, Children's Administration, Ferndale Police Department, United Church of Ferndale, Western Washington University, Private Attorney)

- To further determine program costs, participant contribution and funding options
- To develop a curriculum based on Best and Promising Practices
- To develop clear goals and outcome measures
- To monitor program effectiveness (future)

ESTIMATED SUPPORT BUDGET

Yearly Budget

Serving between 60-100 participants per year and includes victim contact, meeting attendance and contact with probation

Expenses

Salaries/benefits

1 FTE MSW Treatment Provider 80,000

1 FTE Assistant Provider 60,000

Travel/Meetings 1,000

Equipment 8,000

Supplies 5,000

Facility 15,000

Professional Fees 5,000

Other 1,000

Indirect expenses 26,550

Total Expenses **\$201,550**

Possible Income

Participant Fees (\$300 X60) \$18,000

Apple Health/Insurance Billing (\$35 session X 49 weeks x 50 participants) \$85,750

\$103,750

Unfunded

\$97,800

