

Annual Report

**Battering Intervention
and Prevention Project
Fiscal Year 1997**

by

Texas Council on Family Violence

to

**Texas Department of Criminal Justice/
Community Justice Assistance Division**

I. Guidelines

Fiscal Year 1997 represented the second year that programs operated under the Battering Intervention and Prevention Project (BIPP) Guidelines. Nineteen of the 20 programs funded by TDCJ/CJAD were in full compliance. This statement is based on the documentation submitted in the FY'96-'97 grant application process, the site visits conducted, and periodic contact with programs by phone and mail. One program was identified as having serious problems that called into question their compliance with the Guidelines. This situation was remedied when the Board of Directors took action to remove the BIPP coordinator. The program is now stable and in compliance.

In addition to the 20 programs receiving funds from the state of Texas, there were seven other programs in full compliance with the BIPP Guidelines. This statement is also based primarily on the documentation submitted during the funding application process. These seven programs were judged to be in full compliance with the Guidelines and in all respects eligible to receive funding. However, they did not receive funds because of the limited funds made available by the legislature. Informal site visits were made to two of these seven which further confirmed that they were in compliance with the Guidelines. Phone contact with the other five supported the assessment that they were in compliance.

In addition to the 20 BIPPs funded by CJAD, TCFV maintains a database of other organizations and individuals in Texas who are currently attempting to work with batterers or want to enter into that work. This database exceeded 70 at the end of FY'97. Typically, these are counselors in private practice and small community-based nonprofit organizations. Although most of these 70+ expressed desire to be in compliance with the BIPP Guidelines, it is assumed that few if any of them would currently be in full compliance. This statement is based on preliminary conversations with many of the 70+ that found them (by their own description) to be out of compliance with key provisions of the Guidelines, such as minimum program duration, collaboration with local women's shelters, and staff training.

Overall, the BIPP Guidelines are being increasingly accepted as an established measure of quality by those working with batterers around Texas.

II. Site Visits

The contract between TCFV and CJAD required one site visit to each program during the FY'96-'97 biennium. At the beginning of the biennium, the 20 programs were sorted into two categories. Those that appeared to be well established and functioning smoothly were judged to require only one site visit in the two year period, while others were thought to require a visit during each of the years based on the FY'95 site visit data. Thus, during FY'96, 11 of the 20 CJAD funded BIPP programs were visited by TCFV staff. In FY'97 TCFV staff made 19 site visits. One program that was to be visited once in each of the two years had to be rescheduled twice in FY'96 and was finally visited in early FY'97 and again near the end of the same fiscal year.

As was the case last year, these site visits revealed BIPP operations in the field that were generally of good quality. As noted above, all 20 funded programs comply with the BIPP Guidelines. Beyond that, TCFV judges four of them to be of excellent quality. All three of the programs that received funding for the first time were judged to be stable and functioning well. One of these new programs is particularly strong programmatically.

Copies of the reports on these site visits were forwarded to TDCJ/CJAD as they were completed throughout the year.

III. Statistics

All local BIPPs are required to submit a monthly statistical accounting of their program activities to TCFV. This Monthly Activity Report (MAR) collects numbers in categories such as referrals, intakes, number of groups held, hours of services delivered, program completions, and criminal justice trainings offered. Attachment One presents FY'97 data collected from these MARs.

Noteworthy among these compiled statistics:

- Batterers entering BIPPs rose to 5,969 up from 5,333 in FY'96 (about an 11% increase)
- The average completion rate for the 20 BIPPs was 49.7%, up from 46.1% in FY'96
- CSCDs referred 5,134 probationers to BIPPs, of whom 3,524 entered programs (59% of all entrants)

- BIPPs contacted 5,655 victim/partners of batterers in BIPP groups to check on their safety and offer resources
- The 20 BIPPs conducted 176 trainings for 3,013 criminal justice personnel of whom approximately 50% were Community Supervision Officers.

Two other statistics, partially based on the compiled program reporting cited above, deserve mentioning:

1. The state of Texas spent \$70.36 per batterer in FY'97, down from \$78.75 in FY'96. Funds provided by the state represent an average of about one quarter of the operating budgets of the local BIPPs,
2. The 5,969 batterers entering BIPPs in FY'97 represents only 3.29% of the 181,443 family violence incidents reported to Texas law enforcement agencies in 1996 (most recent figures available from DPS).

IV. Training and Technical Assistance

TCFV supplied a great deal of technical assistance by phone, fax, and mail during the year. We responded to 482 requests during the year, 85% of which were received by phone. Quarterly accountings of these technical assistance activities were forwarded to CJAD throughout FY'97.

The TCFV BIPP Specialist, funded by the TDCJ/CJAD grant, provided nine (9) training presentations (lasting a total of 29.5 hours) to 159 people. Nearly all of the participants were criminal justice professionals, battered women's advocates, or battering intervention staff. The venues for these presentations ranged from TCFV-sponsored events to the Fort Hood Family Advocates to the Bexar County CSCD.

V. Community Education Campaign

The FY'97 Community Education Campaign project had four components. They were: 1) inclusion of a BIPP column in the TCFV newsletter, The River, 2) reproduction of existing community education materials and their continued distribution, 3) production of brochures for criminal justice personnel, and 4) qualitative research through focus groups with Hispanic men in order to determine content of messages to be used in future community education materials.

In FY'97, two issues of The River included columns written by Tony Switzer. One reported on the new Executive Director of TDCJ-CJAD while the other discussed community service in BIPP programs as mandated by the Guidelines.

The popular brochure written by TCFV staff—"Is He Really Going to Change This Time?"—a brochure for the female partners of men in BIPP groups was reprinted. In the first year, 35,000 copies were distributed around the state. In FY'97, TCFV reprinted 15,000 copies in English and 7,000 in Spanish. These numbers make this brochure one of TCFV's most popular educational pieces.

The contract for the FY 97 biennium calls for TCFV to produce and distribute brochures to educate and inform Community Supervision Officers, prosecutors, and judges. The production process for these brochures included review by a member of each target audience, and the content was acceptable to all. The three brochures were then finalized and produced.

However, prior to distribution, researchers advocating a therapeutic approach to working with batterers presented information at a national conference that questioned the nature and effectiveness of BIPP Guidelines. To determine an appropriate response to this national debate, TCFV hosted a meeting of leaders in the field of battering intervention. One result of this meeting was the advisability of revising these brochures to further refine their message before distributing them. These revisions are ongoing, and reprinting and distribution will occur by June, 1998.

In FY'98, TCFV will undertake extensive qualitative research through focus groups with men. The goal is to explore potential messages and formats for communicating with men about domestic violence. An amendment to the FY'97 contract approved by TDCJ-CJAD allowed this focus group research to commence early. Thus, seven separate focus groups with Hispanic men were conducted. The knowledge gained from these initial groups is being used to refine the format of the focus groups to be conducted in FY'98.

Attachment One

**BIPP Participants Entering Programs By Referral Source
Fiscal Year 1997**

Program	Probation	Deferred Adjudication	Parole	Pre-trial Services	Judge, Prosecutor, or Crim. Ct.	Law Enforce- ment	Protective Orders	CPS	Voluntary	Other	Total for all Sources
Noah Project, Abilene	27	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	18	3	52
Family Support Services, Amarillo	43	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	7	0	55
Child & Family Services, Austin	123	84	3	232	2	0	48	0	70	0	562
Family Crisis Center, Bastrop	61	12	0	0	29	0	15	3	21	0	141
Family Services, Beaumont	107	0	6	91	54	0	2	10	29	1	300
Friendship of Women, Inc., Brownsville	37	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	1	1	47
A Turning Point, Corpus Christi	46	0	0	0	2	0	50	0	11	0	109
The Family Place, Dallas	559	1	0	10	36	4	47	9	50	16	732
Denton County Friends of the Family, Denton	215	0	4	7	0	0	17	0	10	13	266
Women's Haven, Fort Worth	109	39	0	44	31	10	14	12	129	0	388

Program	Probation	Deferred Adjudication	Parole	Pre-trial Services	Judge, Prosecutor, or Crim. Ct.	Law Enforce- ment	Protective Orders	CPS	Voluntary	Other	Total for all Sources
New Beginning Center, Garland	78	6	0	2	40	2	6	0	24	2	160
PIVOT of AVDA, Houston	610	15	8	19	79	0	2	11	99	62	905
Hill Country Crisis Council, Kerrville	27	0	0	8	5	0	0	2	20	1	63
Women Together, McAllen	95	1	6	3	12	0	0	3	29	0	149
PBCBWTC Project ADAM, Midland	41	10	4	4	9	0	15	9	24	1	117
Family Haven, Paris	28	0	3	0	13	0	2	2	18	4	70
Pott Arthur Family Service, Pott Arthur	44	0	3	81	0	0	12	0	21	0	161
Family Violence Prevention Services, San Antonio	1,043	0	0	10	13	0	0	0	27	11	1,104
Crisis Center, Sherman	125	22	13	179	71	1	17	11	11	0	450
East Texas Crisis Center, Tyler	106	0	2	1	0	0	1	4	24	0	138
Totals for All Programs	3,524	194	53	691	406	17	249	77	643	115	5,969

**BIPP Program Exits
Fiscal Year 1997**

How Batterers Exited from the Programs

Program	Total Participants Entering Programs	How Batterers Exited from the Programs				Total Exits	Completion Rates (%)
		Completed Program Requirements	Failed to Complete Requirements	Expelled from Program	Other		
Noah Project Abilene	52	13	8	7	0	28	46.4%
Family Support Services Amarillo	55	17	8	6	0	31	54.8%
Child & Family Services Austin	562	378	367	0	3	748	50.5%
Family Crisis Center Bastrop	141	51	61	9	6	127	40.2%
Family Services Beaumont	300	98	59	71	9	237	41.4%
Friendship of Women, Inc. Brownsville	47	18	0	8	0	26	69.2%

A Turning Point Corpus Christi	109	12	5	22	2	41	29.3%
The Family Place Dallas	732	161	34	151	0	346	46.5%
Denton County Friends of the Family Denton	266	132	0	62	0	194	68.0%
Women's Haven Fort Worth	388	93	11	14	0	118	78.8%
New Beginning Center Garland	160	35	37	34	11	117	29.9%
PIVOT of AVDA Houston	905	451	368	32	33	884	51.0%
Hill Country Crisis Council Kerrville	63	14	11	1	2	28	50.0%
Women Together McAllen	149	52	21	63	0	136	38.2%
PBCBWTC Project ADAM Midland	117	68	18	10	10	106	64.2%

Family Haven 70 19 20 10 15 64 29.7%
Paris

Port Arthur Family Service 161 137 42 28 4 211 64.9%
Port Arthur

Family Violence Prevention Services 1,104 458 190 181 124 953 48.1%
San Antonio

Crisis Center 450 158 37 186 0 381 41.5%
Sherman

East Texas Crisis Center 138 39 4 16 0 59 66.1%
Tyler

Totals for All Programs 5,969 2,404 1,301 911 219 4,835 49.7%

Battering Intervention and Prevention Program Services Fiscal Year 1997

Program	Number of Services Delivered										
	All Referrals and Inquiries	Referrals from Probation Only	Total Participants Entering Programs	Intake Interviews	Group Meetings Held	Batterer Visits to Group	Participant Hours In Group	Hours of One Services	Total Participant Hours Delivered	Number of Victims/Partners Contacted	
Noah Project, Abilene	64	34	52	52	50	399	598.5	27.25	680.75	35	
Family Support Services, Amarillo	95	71	55	55	98	762	1,143	15	1,242.69	25	
Child & Family Services, Austin	744	114	562	570	1,113	10,129	20,258	203	21,316	125	
Family Crisis Center, Bastrop	267	133	141	142	272	1,498	2,247	9	2,469	168	
Family Services, Beaumont	366	119	300	300	394	4,324	6,738.5	246	10,460.5	144	
Friendship of Women, Inc., Brownsville	159	138	47	47	80	927	1,854	0	1,901	7	
A Turning Point, Corpus Christi	176	73	109	109	99	947	1,894	43	2,113	74	
The Family Place, Dallas	1,351	302	732	732	833	8,209.5	12,314.25	216.5	13,533.75	222	
Denton County Friends of the Family, Denton	381	0	266	267	469	4,617	14,013	345.4	14,757.54	284	

Number of Services Delivered to Batterers

Program	All Referrals and Inquiries	Referrals from Probation Only	Total Participants Entering Programs	Intake Interviews	Group Meetings Held	Batterer Visits to Group	Participant Hours In Group	Hours of One on One Services	Total Participant Hours Delivered	Number of Victims/ Partners Contacted
Women's Haven, Fort Worth	1,172	109	388	388	490	2,599	4,834.14	0	6,382.26	301
New Beginning Center, Garland	908	524	160	160	193	1,447	2,170.5	67	2,443.5	57
PIVOT of AVDA, Houston	1,472	789	905	905	1,122	12,789	24,543.2	976.5	31,937.58	997
Hill Country Crisis Council, Kerrville	61	27	63	63	129	686	1,372	91	1,578	30
Women Together, McAllen	216	148	149	145	176	1,386	2,633.4	48	2,954.4	50
PBCBWTC Project ADAM, Midland	265	146	117	117	89	756	1,944.72	258	2,686.72	105
Family Haven, Paris	98	69	70	64	94	506	1,012	145	1,221	49
Port Arthur Family Service, Port Arthur	265	58	161	161	126	2,821	4,231.5	55	300,731.5	191
Family Violence Prevention Services, San Antonio	2,268	1,882	1,104	1,106	1,266	13,858	27,716	145	28,967	2530
Crisis Center, Sherman	481	238	450	431	224	5,670	11,340	423.5	13,487.5	242

Number of Services Delivered to Batterers

Program	All Referrals and Inquiries	Referrals from Probation Only	Total Participants Entering Programs	Intake Interviews	Group Meetings Held	Batterer Visits to Group	Participant Hours In Group	Hours of One on One Services	Total Participant Hours Delivered	Number of Victims/ Partners Contacted
East Texas Crisis Center, Tyler	238	160	138	138	240	1,348	2,696	85.5	2,988.5	19
Totals for All Programs	11,047	5,134	5,969	5,952	7,557	72,860.3	141,326.4415	3,399.65	163,421.4215	5,655

Program	Probation Officers		Judges and Judicial Employees		Prosecutors and Their Staff		Law Enforcement		Program Totals		
	Number of Persons Trained	Hours of Training Presented	Number of Persons Trained	Hours of Training Presented	Number of Persons Trained	Hours of Training Presented	Number of Persons Trained	Hours of Training Presented	# of Persons Trained	Hours of Training	# of Trainings Presented
Women's Haven, Fort Worth	398	16	18	4	15	1	116	12.5	547	33.5	21
New Beginning Center, Garland	0	0	0	0	0	0	283	18	283	18	9
PIVOT of AVDA, Houston	118	6.5	18	5	87	7	89	5.5	312	24	16
Hill Country Crisis Council, Kerrville	14	5	3	7	0	0	101	12	118	24	12
Women Together, McAllen	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	30	20	30	2
PBCBWTC Project ADAM, Midland	124	19	2	0.75	2	0.75	0	0	128	20.5	18
Family Haven, Paris	6	1	25	2	1	1	53	1.5	85	5.5	7
Port Arthur Family Service, Port Arthur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family Violence Prevention Services, San Antonio	564	31	89	8	22	7	42	6.5	717	52.5	13
Crisis Center, Sherman	6	4	0	0	5	2	63	7	74	13	6

Program	Probation Officers		Judges and Judicial Employees		Prosecutors and Their Staff		Law Enforcement		Program Totals		
	Number of Persons Trained	Hours of Training Presented	Number of Persons Trained	Hours of Training Presented	Number of Persons Trained	Hours of Training Presented	Number of Persons Trained	Hours of Training Presented	# of Persons Trained	Hours of Training	# of Trainings Presente
East Texas Crisis Center, Tyler	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	2
Totals for All Programs	1,516	141.5	227	49.75	193	30.25	1,077	164.5	3,013	386	176