

Annual Report

**Battering Intervention
and Prevention Project
Fiscal Year 1998**

by

Texas Council on Family Violence

to

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

Overview

In the first year of the biennium, Fiscal Year 1998, four additional Battering Intervention and Prevention Project (BIPP) programs were funded, raising the total from 20 to 24. The addition of these programs was made possible by increased funding from the 75th Legislature. Funding went from just over \$1.0 million dollars for the previous biennium to \$1.4 million currently.

As demonstrated by the statistics cited in the body of this report and in Attachment One, FY '98 saw an increasing number of batterers referred to programs across the state. In addition, BIPPs participants completed their programs at increased rates—about 5% higher than the previous year.

Two Texas BIPP programs and the Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV) participated in a prestigious research project funded by the Centers for Disease Control. This long-term study is producing data that supports the efficacy of battering intervention programs as a community response to domestic violence perpetrators.

BIPPs are an efficient use of taxpayer money. Based on numbers gathered in FY '96¹, BIPPs raise three dollars locally for every state dollar needed to fund their operations.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, there was a dramatic increase in the numbers of contacts with victim/partners made by the BIPP programs. This is a measure of the efforts made by the BIPPs to ensure the safety and well-being of victims and children.

BIPPs hold out the possibility that batterers can be resocialized away from violence and domination, but actually they represent only one link in the chain of a community's coordinated response to the crime of domestic violence. BIPPs can only be as effective as part of the entire community's response to the problem of violence against women. Overall, BIPPs in Texas increasingly occupy a position of importance in the effort to reduce and eliminate domestic violence.

¹ This is the most recent compilation of these numbers. It is planned in FY'99 that similar numbers will be compiled.

I. Guidelines

Fiscal Year 1998 was the third year that programs operated under the BIPP Guidelines. These Guidelines continue to be a crucial factor in improving the service delivery of the 24 CJAD-funded BIPP programs.

In addition to the 24 programs receiving funds from the state of Texas, there are four other programs in full compliance with the BIPP Guidelines.² These four programs are in all respects eligible to receive funding, but they did not because of limited funds made available by the legislature.

Besides the 24 BIPPs funded by CJAD, TCFV maintains a database of organizations and individuals in Texas that are currently attempting to work with batterers or want to enter into that work. This database exceeded 80 at the end of FY'98. Typically, these are counselors in private practice and small community-based nonprofit organizations. Although most of these 80+ 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. Based on preliminary conversations, many of these entities are not in compliance with key provisions of the Guidelines, such as minimum program duration, collaboration with local women's shelters, and staff training.

In FY'98, TCFV and CJAD undertook the task of reviewing and revising the BIPP Guidelines since they had been in effect for over three years. A committee of 12 individuals from around the state met four times in Austin and produced recommendations for revision. An implementation date of June 1, 1999, is planned for the revised document.

II. Site Visits

The contract between TCFV and CJAD requires that TCFV provide one monitoring site visit to each program during the FY'98-'99 biennium. At the beginning of the biennium, the 24 programs were sorted into two categories. Those that appeared to be well established and functioning smoothly would require only one site visit in the two year period, while others would require a visit during each of the years based on previous site visits and other factors, such as recent staff turnover and program requests. During FY'98, 8 of the 24 CJAD-funded BIPP

² This statement is based primarily on the documentation submitted during the application process for the current biennium's funding. Additionally, an informal site visit was made to one of these four, which further confirmed that it was in compliance with the Guidelines. Phone and occasional in-person contact with the other three supported the assessment that they were in compliance.

programs were visited by TCFV staff. In FY'99, sixteen monitoring visits will be accomplished with additional staff in place at TCFV.

FY'98 site visits revealed that BIPP operations were of good quality. As noted above, all 24 funded programs comply with the BIPP Guidelines. Seven of them are of excellent quality, while another eight are of very good quality. Three of the four programs that received funding for the first time were judged to be stable and functioning well. The fourth was affected substantially by the chronic health problems of its primary staff person.

Monitoring reports documenting Guidelines compliance were prepared for all site visits. Copies of these reports were forwarded to the Directors of the BIPP Programs, the Chairs of their Boards, and 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. The 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'98 data collected from these MARs.

Noteworthy among these compiled statistics:

- Batterers entering BIPPs rose to 6,383, up from 5,969 in FY'97 (a 6.9% increase)
- The average completion rate for the 24 BIPPs was 54.2%, up from 49.7% in FY'97
- CSCDs referred 4,274 probationers to BIPPs, of whom 3,930 entered programs (61.6% of all entrants)
- BIPPs contacted 7,361 victim/partners of batterers in BIPP groups to check on their safety and offer resources (up from 5,655 in FY'97)
- The 24 BIPPs conducted 144 trainings for 1,312 criminal justice personnel, of whom 36.1% were Community Supervision Officers.

One other statistic, partially based on the compiled program reporting cited above, deserves mentioning. The 6,383 batterers entering BIPPs in FY'98

represents only 3.51% of the 181,773 family violence incidents reported to Texas law enforcement agencies in 1997 (most recent figures available from DPS).³

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 reported to CJAD throughout FY'98.

The TCFV BIPP staff, funded by the TDCJ/CJAD grant, provided twelve (12) training presentations (totaling 24.75 hours) to 454 people. Nearly all of the participants were criminal justice professionals, battered women's advocates, or battering intervention staff. The venues for these training presentations ranged from TCFV-sponsored events to the Harris County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council to the National Child Support Enforcement Association.

V. Community Education Campaign

The FY'98 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 Texas men for the purpose of shaping future community education materials.

In FY'98, two issues of The River included columns written by BIPP staff. One written by Maria José Angelelli reported on her research on batterers and their parenting interactions with their children. The other, written by Tony Switzer, discussed social change as a strategy to achieve an end to battering.

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

³ This percentage is cited as an approximate indication of scale. The statistic assumes that the number of incidents reported to DPS is equivalent to the number of batterers in Texas. This assumption is flawed for two reasons. First, there are undoubtedly many more incidents than are reported to law enforcement agencies. Family violence experts speculate that there may be as many as ten times more incidents than are reported. Second, although in many instances there may be only one incident per batterer per year, undoubtedly there are many others where there are multiple assaults per batterer per year.

reprinted. In its first two years of availability TCFV distributed 70,000 copies of the brochures in English and Spanish. In FY'98, TCFV reprinted 7,000 copies in English and 4,000 in Spanish. This brochure has become one of TCFV's most popular educational pieces, with a distribution far beyond BIPP programs and the partners of men in BIPP groups. For instance, permission to reproduce it for local use has been granted to domestic violence organizations in four states, several cities, and by the District Attorney's Office in New Orleans.

The contract for FY'98 called for TCFV to revise, reprint, and distribute brochures to educate and inform Community Supervision Officers, prosecutors, and judges. Understaffing and change of emphasis for the brochure led to multiple delays with this work. Production and distribution of a final draft is anticipated in February 1999.

TCFV did qualitative research in FY'98 through focus groups with men. The goal of the focus groups, conducted by Orchard Communications, was to explore potential messages and media for communicating with men about domestic violence. Groups recruited from the general population were conducted with Caucasian and African-American men in Tyler and Houston. Their responses were combined with those of Hispanic men's focus groups conducted earlier and analyzed by the contractor. The result is a report outlining potential messages and formats for communicating with Texas men about stopping domestic violence.

The content of this report will be combined the knowledge and experience of TCFV BIPP staff to craft a FY'99 educational campaign directed toward men.

Attachment One

Battering Intervention and Prevention Program Services Fiscal Year 1998

Number of Services Delivered

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
Noah Project, Abilene	92	44	57	59	323	451	1,176	31	1,266	36
Family Support Services, Amarillo	82	73	105	105	223	1,521	2,281.5	15	2,785.61	47
Child and Family Services, Austin	1,091	346	734	697	1,003	10,168	20,336	157	21,538.5	298
Family Crisis Center, Bastrop	245	143	133	126	282	1,589	2,383.5	0	2,572.5	87
Family Services of Beaumont, Beaumont	419	206	345	354	471	4,408	6,612	221	11,381	85
Friendship of Women, Inc., Brownsville	171	154	93	98	41	829	1,658	0	1,756	0
Family Violence & Sexual Assault Prevention of South Texas, Corpus Christi	188	50	96	95	132	1,056	2,053.75	46	2,283.75	53
The Family Place, Dallas	1,347	113	659	772	999	11,753	17,629.5	171.35	18,780.43	168
Denton County Friends of the Family, Denton	350	0	251	261	523	4,032	7,257.6	338.74	8,012.14	204

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
EPSBW, El Paso	896	50	577	586	735	9,136	18,272	775	19,892	451
Women's Haven of Tarrant County, Fort Worth	918	97	360	377	418	2,729	5,075.94	44	6,624.17	211
New Beginning Center, Inc., Garland	796	473	226	234	546	3,911	5,866.5	89	6,189.5	32
PIVOT of AVDA, Houston	1,103	538	644	649	1,143	9,991	19,982	252.8	26,044.14302	885
Hill County Crisis Council, Kerrville	69	34	89	95	147	735	1,470	188	1,813.96	43
Counseling, Inc., Marble Falls	55	26	64	59	77	465	930	0	1,026	17
Women Together, McAllen	214	145	139	140	190	1,558	2,666.4	34	2,840.4	67
PBCBWTC Project ADAM, Midland	177	48	133	136	212	1,231	3,023.58	252.7	3,622.78	31
Family Haven, Paris	86	51	60	62	96	393	786	39	887	4
Hope's Door, Plano	242	0	74	106	139	953	1,906	8	2,073	139
Family Service Center of Port Arthur, Port Arthur	181	15	79	80	177	1,169	2,595	2.5	2,717.5	95

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Family Violence Prevention Services, San Antonio	1,521	1,258	1,028	1,042	1,313	14,546	29,092	37	30,171	3813
Women's Crisis Center, Sherman	321	210	254	257	224	5,254	10,508	324	11,618	510
Domestic Violence Prevention, Texarkana	151	85	74	85	56	419	1,954.7	27	2,066.7	29
East Texas Crisis Center, Tyler	223	116	99	108	253	1,038	2,076	34.5	2,272.5	46
Totals for All Programs	10,938	4,275	6,373	6,583	9,723	89,335	167,591	3,087	190,234	7,351

BIPP Participants Entering Programs By Referral Source Fiscal Year 1998

Program	Probation	Pre-Adju- dication	Post-Adju- dication	Parole	Pre-trial Services	Judge, Prosecutor, or Crim. Ct.	Law Enforce- ment	Protective Orders	CPS	Voluntary	Other	Total for all Sources
Noah Project, Abilene	40	0	40	1	0	1	0	0	0	14	1	57
Family Support Services, Amarillo	85	44	41	1	3	4	0	1	1	9	1	105
Child and Family Services, Austin	255	137	118	22	305	14	1	29	8	63	37	734
Family Crisis Center, Bastrop	61	14	47	0	0	34	0	26	1	11	0	133
Family Services of Beaumont , Beaumont	144	80	64	4	100	22	2	22	12	38	1	345
Friendship of Women, Inc., Brownsville	86	0	86	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	93
Family Violence & Sexual Assault Prevention of South Texas, Corpus Christi	46	14	32	0	2	7	0	29	1	9	2	96

Program	Probation	Pre-Adju- dication	Post-Adju- dication	Parole	Pre-trial Services	Judge, Prosecutor, or Crim. Ct.	Law Enforce- ment	Protective Orders	CPS	Voluntary	Other	Total for all Sources
The Family Place, Dallas	523	21	502	1	3	17	0	86	8	11	10	659
Denton County Friends of the Family, Denton	204	2	202	1	6	1	0	14	0	18	7	251
EPSBW, El Paso	248	83	165	2	8	89	0	152	15	55	8	577
Women's Haven of Tarrant County, Fort Worth	85	79	6	2	50	87	0	42	1	93	0	360
New Beginning Center, Inc., Garland	138	15	123	0	0	46	8	13	1	17	3	226
PIVOT of AVDA, Houston	429	173	256	4	22	60	0	7	7	89	26	644
Hill County Crisis Council, Kerrville	42	21	21	0	21	10	0	2	0	14	0	89
Counseling, Inc., Marble Falls	32	7	25	1	0	5	0	17	0	8	1	64
Women Together, McAllen	93	5	88	10	7	12	0	0	2	14	1	139

Program	Probation	Pre-Adju- dication	Post-Adju- dication	Parole	Pre-trial Services	Judge, Prosecutor, or Crim. Ct.	Law Enforce- ment	Protective Orders	CPS	Voluntary	Other	Total for all Sources
PBCBWTC Project ADAM, Midland	40	15	25	6	4	9	1	27	6	37	3	133
Family Haven, Paris	34	1	33	1	0	4	0	6	2	11	2	60
Hope's Door, Plano	33	29	4	0	6	26	0	1	1	6	1	74
Family Service Center of Port Arthur, Port Arthur	11	9	2	0	50	3	0	13	0	0	2	79
Family Violence Prevention Services, San Antonio	979	159	820	0	6	3	0	0	0	33	7	1,028
Women's Crisis Center, Sherman	187	64	123	9	14	4	0	12	10	18	0	254
Domestic Violence Prevention, Texarkana	63	51	12	0	0	2	0	0	0	9	0	74
East Texas Crisis Center, Tyler	70	2	68	1	0	1	1	0	4	21	1	99
Totals for All Programs	3928	1025	2903	67	607	461	13	499	80	603	115	6,373

**BIPP Program Exits
Fiscal Year 1998**

How Batterers Exited from the Programs

Program	Total Participants Entering Programs	Completed Program Requirements	Failed to Complete Requirements	Expelled from Program	Other	Total Exits	Completion Rates (%)
Noah Project	57	10	10	5	1	26	38.5%
Abilene							
Family Support Services	105	39	13	28	1	81	48.1%
Amarillo							
Child and Family Services	734	456	326	0	0	782	58.3%
Austin							
Family Crisis Center	133	96	65	0	2	163	59.0%
Bastrop							
Family Services of Beaumont	345	195	84	33	8	320	60.9%
Beaumont							
Friendship of Women, Inc.	93	18	3	25	6	52	34.6%
Brownsville							
Family Violence & Sexual Assault Prevention of South Texas	96	21	18	8	3	50	42.0%
Corpus Christi							

	Total Participants Entering Programs	Completed Program Requirements	Failed to Complete Requirements	Expelled from Program	Other	Total Exits	Completion Rates (%)
The Family Place	659	279	6	218	5	508	54.9%
Dallas							
Denton County Friends of the Family	251	163	0	65	0	228	71.5%
Denton							
EPSSBW	577	397	409	0	2	808	49.1%
El Paso							
Women's Haven of Tarrant County	360	141	10	12	4	167	84.4%
Fort Worth							
New Beginning Center, Inc.	226	103	153	46	30	332	31.0%
Garland							
PIVOT of AVDA	644	431	212	36	22	701	61.5%
Houston							
Hill County Crisis Council	89	32	51	6	2	91	35.2%
Kerrville							

	Total Participants Entering Programs	Completed Program Requirements	Failed to Complete Requirements	Expelled from Program	Other	Total Exits	Completion Rates (%)
Counseling, Inc.	64	5	15	1	0	21	23.8%
Marble Falls							
Women Together	139	63	26	59	0	148	42.6%
McAllen							
PBCBWTIC Project ADAM	133	41	7	0	5	53	77.4%
Midland							
Family Haven	60	21	42	5	4	72	29.2%
Paris							
Hope's Door	74	47	6	6	0	59	79.7%
Plano							
Family Service Center of Port Arthur	79	52	9	3	2	66	78.8%
Port Arthur							
Family Violence Prevention Services	1,028	527	250	202	101	1,080	48.8%
San Antonio							

	Total Participants Entering Programs	Completed Program Requirements	Failed to Complete Requirements	Expelled from Program	Other	Total Exits	Completion Rates (%)
Women's Crisis Center	254	213	35	77	35	360	59.2%
Sherman							
Domestic Violence Prevention	74	25	2	1	5	33	75.8%
Texarkana							
East Texas Crisis Center	99	23	17	29	1	70	32.9%
Tyler							
Totals for All Programs	6,373	3,398	1,769	865	239	6,271	54.2%

Trainings Presented by BIPPs for Criminal Justice System Personnel Fiscal Year 1998

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 Presented	# of Trainings Presented
Noah Project, Abilene	1	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.5	0
Family Support Services, Amarillo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child and Family Services, Austin	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	1	22	1	1
Family Crisis Center, Bastrop	21	9.5	23	8.5	22	9.5	80	14.5	146	42	30
Family Services of Beaumont , Beaumont	14	2	3	1	10	4	4	2	31	9	9
Friendship of Women, Inc., Brownsville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family Violence & Sexual Assault Prevention of South Texas, Corpus Christi	32	3	0	0	0	0	62	7	94	10	43
The Family Place, Dallas	48	6	0	0	0	0	100	11	148	17	4

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 Presented	# of Trainings Presente
Hope's Door, Plano	25	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	1	1
Family Service Center of Port Arthur, Port Arthur	17	2	11	2	0	0	0	0	28	4	4
Family Violence Prevention Services, San Antonio	31	9	150	1	61	4.5	163	5	405	19.5	10
Women's Crisis Center, Sherman	4	4	2	2	7	1	0	0	13	7	3
Domestic Violence Prevention, Texarkana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
East Texas Crisis Center, Tyler	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1
Totals for All Programs	473	66.25	200	26.5	118	26.5	521	50.5	1,312	169.75	144