

COLORADO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

September 10, 2021

Attendance:

Domestic Violence Board Members Present:

Bradly Burback, Erin Gazelka, Jeanette Barich, Jennifer Parker, Jessica Fann, Karen Morenghaler, Kristiana Huitron, Laura Bravo, Lori Griffith, Michelle Hunter, Nicole Collins, Nil Buckley, Raechel Alderete, Sandra Campanella, Stephanie Fritts, Tally Zuckerman

Domestic Violence Board Members Absent:

Andrea Bradbury, Jackie List

Staff Present:

Adrienne Corday, Caroleena Frane, Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky, Jesse Hansen, Marina Borysov, Yuanting Zhang

Guests:

Brandi Goetz, Debra Knaub, Denise Wright, Jalice Vigil, Jessica Meza, Dr. Julianna Nemeth, Kathleen Bui, Levon Hupfer, Maddy Pontius, Mia Baumgartner, Philippe Marquis, Rachel Ramirez, Randy Saucedo, Sasha Cafaro

Introductions

The meeting convened online at 9:06AM. Stephanie Fritts (Chair) introduced herself as the Chair and welcome the Board and guests. Jesse indicated to Stephanie that a quorum was present.

Stephanie asked if there was consensus to approve the September agenda.

There was consensus to approve the September agenda.

Next, the Board reviewed the August minutes. Stephanie asked if there was a motion.

Jessica Fann moved to approve the August minutes. Erin Gazelka seconded the motion.

There was no discussion on the August minutes. Stephanie asked Yuanting to prepare the vote. Yuanting reminded public members that only Board members should vote.

The motion passed with nine votes to approve, zero votes to object, and two votes to abstain.

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Yes	81.81%	9
No	0.00%	0
Abstain	18.19%	2
Totals	100%	11



Announcements:

- Staff Announcements:
 - Jesse Hansen Announced:
 - The Executive Committee decided to leave the Domestic Violence Board Meetings on the second Friday of each month.
 - Domestic Violence Risk and Needs Assessment (DVRNA) validation study is underway. The Office of Research and Statistics is reviewing the data that is available at this time. Recidivism analyses will be postponed until October of 2022 due to the impact of COVID-19.
 - Carolina Thomasson announced:
 - The Application Review Committee (ARC) processed 103 Domestic Violence Offender Management Board (DVOMB) Treatment Provider renewals.
 - Marina Borysov announced the following updates regarding training events:
 - Domestic Violence Sex Offender Management Board (DVSOMB) Conference:
 - For anyone who was registered for the conference and was not able to attend, or would like to view more trainings and receive a certificate, it is open until October 14, 2021.
 - Training Events
 - Quarter 3, 2021 Trainings
 - DVI02, DV Offender Evaluation Training – September 20th
 - DVI03, DV Offender Treatment Training– October 18th
 - Lunch and Learn
 - October 6th Alternative Training Coming Soon!
 - Outside Trainings
 - COVA Conference
 - September 13th and September 22nd.

Board Announcements

The new Vice Chair to the Victim Advocacy Committee is Jessica Fann.

Public Announcements

For Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, Andrea Martinez and a male victim will be speaking at the meeting along with Margaret Abrams from the Rose Amond Center.

Future Agenda Items

There were no future agenda items.

Standards Review Committee Report: Updates & Next Steps: (Handout)

Erin Gazelka and Jesse Hansen gave a report on the updates and next steps on Section 5.0 of the *Standards*, which pertain to treatment for Domestic Violence Offenders. The Standards Revision Committee has been working on revisions since January 2020. The committee has revised a few of the introductory sections and will be moving on to other parts of Section 5.0. Before future revisions are drafted, the Standards Revision Committee wanted to review the proposed changes with the DVOMB. Erin and Jesse outlined the proposed changes which are intended to allow more discretion for the Treatment Provider to use different interventions and modalities that are not strictly cognitive-behavioral treatment. This would empower the utilization of

other modalities such as Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), and others. While the current Standards do not prohibit these practices, the language does not expressly support the use of these modalities when clinically indicated. The planned revisions will continue follow the Risk, Need, Responsivity principals and updates are planned to focus on the core competencies, discharge categories, pre-treatment options, and potentially adding other levels.

Discussion:

- Is there a way to dispute the level of intensity of treatment?
 - Treatment Providers have to used the DVRNA. The DVRNA is accurate as far as identifying criminogenic needs that need to be addressed as part of the client's rehabilitation. Someone who has received an offender evaluation may seek a second opinion.
- Is there a domain in the DVRNA on stalking?
 - Yes. Under Domain G, Item 1 addresses stalking and monitoring.

The Chair asked if there was consensus for the Standards Revision Committee to move forward with the proposed changes. There was support and excitement expressed for the proposed changes.

There is consensus around this item from the Board

Treatment Victim Advocate Focus Group Results & Next Steps: (Handout)

Christopher Lobanov-Rostovsky reported on the process that the Victim Advocate Committee (VAC) took to gather information about how to set a direction for the work of the committee, and to make recommendations about items that need to be addressed.

There are concerns related to confidentiality and privilege, given that, the TVA roll is not defined in statute. A few months ago, a survey conducted by the VAC was sent to TVA's and also asked for input from individuals who experienced abuse. Those TVAs who participated in the survey were also invited to join a focus group. There were approximately 10 volunteers who participated in the TVA focus group. Christopher presented the questions and responses that were collected during the focus group.

Discussion:

- Is there an understanding that information from a victim cannot be released without a release?
 - Yes, however, the victims need to opt in for services by the TVA.
 - The VAC committee is aware of the limitations. The committee is hoping to build better relationships with the Victim Service Officers (VSO) and the TVA's.
- Concerns about the idea of the confidentiality were noted in terms of how this information is used in a way that does not disclose what information was from the victim. If this information is released to Probation, or to Treatment Providers, could this result in a revocation? Concern for the offender client and revocation without any way of knowing where that information came from or its validity.
 - The TVA's roll is to always protect the victim and cannot release any information without the victim's permission.
 - The typical operating procedure for teams is if any concerns emerge from information provided by a victim, that information is sought to be corroborated in a way that does not maintains the victim's confidentiality. There should not be a situation where decisions are made solely using what a victim has said.
 - Confidentiality is a tool, and is neutral. How can we apply it? This is done through a disclosure, and is based on what the victim gives permission to share and with whom.
 - Is this an issue that the DVOMB should be deciding or is this an issue that the TVA's and other advocacy groups should be advocating for legislative change?
 - The TVA's have had this conversation, but decided that we as the Board have an opportunity to frame the strategy. The legislators are not educated in this field.

- Chris summarized next steps and indicated that the Committee would begin unpacking this information to inform its direction.

Research Project: Traumatic Brain Injuries & Domestic Violence Offenders: (Handout)

Students from The University of Denver's Graduate School of Professional Psychology are seeking the support of the DVOMB Approved Providers regarding their Research Project: Traumatic Brain Injuries & Domestic Violence Offenders. Maddy Pontius and Mia Baumgartner conducted a presentation on the proposed research and why it is important and how the DVOMB can connect and support the project.

Break: No business conducted.

Hidden in Plain Sight: The Connection Between Domestic Violence, Brain, Injury, Substance Use and Addiction: (Handout)

Rachel Ramirez, and Julianna Nemeth, PhD gave a presentation on the connection between domestic violence, brain injuries, substance use and addiction with victims.

Break: No business conducted.

Diversion Programming for Domestic Violence Cases: (Handout)

Levon Hupfer and Stephanie Fritts gave a presentation on Diversion Programming for Domestic Violence Cases.

Discussion:

- Tally expressed support of diversion for offenders.
- Jesse asked if there were other diversion programs set up like this?
 - Levon indicated that most of the other jurisdictions are in the metro area, but those programs do not offer services in house. Other jurisdictions have chosen to not use diversion for domestic violence cases because there is concern of how dangerous the population is.
- Raechel asked if the DVOMB Standards need to be utilized or are the Standards used as a best practice? Is the primary person supervising the client also treating the client?
 - Levon indicated that they have had to define their role and have had to develop parameters in the case management being separate from the treatment of the client (e.g. a decision maker separate from the provider).
 -

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:34 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Adrienne Corday



Individual Voting Results

Active Participants	Total Participants	
14	14	
Last Name	First Name	Motion 1
Bradbury	Andrea	NP
Burback	Bradley	3
Gazelka	Erin	1
List	Jackie	NP
Barich	Jeanette	NP
Parker	Jennifer	NP
Fann	Jessica	1
Morgenthaler	Karen	1
Huitrón	Kristiana	NP
Bravo	Laura	NP
Griffith	Lori	1
Hunter	Michelle	1
Collins	Nicole	1
Buckley	Nil	1
Alderate	Raechel	NP
Campanella	Sandra	1
Fritts	Stephanie	1
Zuckerman	Tally	3

Voting Legend
 1 = Yes
 2 = No
 3 = Abstain
 NP = Not Present At the Time of Vote

Motion 1: Jessica Fann moved to approve the August minutes. Erin Gazelka seconded the motion.