



What is Domestic Violence?

- Domestic violence occurs when a person uses physical violence, coercion, threats, intimidation, isolation, stalking, emotional abuse, or spiritual abuse or economic abuse to control a partner in a relationship.
- Domestic violence is a single act or a pattern of behavior that includes, but is not limited to, dating, marriage, family, or roommate relationships.

No Boundaries



July 1, 1995

23 Members (Stakeholders)

Meet Quarterly

Meetings Open to Public



T.C.A. §38-12-101

DVSCC



Goals of the DVSCC

- Increase the awareness and understanding of domestic and family violence and its consequences
- Reduce the incidence of domestic and family violence within the state through the creation and dissemination of model policies and training curricula for law enforcement and the courts
- Certify/Recertify and monitor court-ordered batterers' intervention programs (BIPs)
- Improve oversight and expansion of Batterer's Intervention Programs



History of Batterers' Intervention Programs

- First batterers' intervention programs were founded in the 1970s in response to:
 - Stricter domestic violence laws, more arrests, more batterers brought to the attention of courts, demand for court-mandated services for batterers.
 - Victims wanted another option:
 - "Women told us that they wanted us to work with the offenders-- that helping them change is what would most help them change."

Retrieved from www.theduluthmodel.org



Program Structure (0490-1-.05)

- 26 weeks minimum, one meeting per week
- 1.5 to 2.5 hours per meeting – **must meet 90 minute minimum!**
- 2 Instructors at all times, one may be an intern or volunteer
- **Limited** batterer confidentiality
- Programs must have Contracts and Group Rules



Program Structure (0490-1-.05)

Roles of Instructors

- Focus on batterers' behaviors
- Challenge denial and minimization
- Facilitate reflective and critical thinking
- Compassionate and challenging, not colluding
- Provide new (current) information



Accountability

- Report to criminal justice system, victim, victim advocate, others (i.e. Dept. or Children's Services)
- Participate in community efforts to end violence
- Make efforts to prevent domestic abuse
- Batterers sign contracts
- Batterers pay a fee, unless indigent or the program is jail-based.



Tennessee Batterers Intervention Programs

- Currently 26 certified programs in 65 counties
- Monthly meetings/trainings (4th Wednesday)



Difference between Anger Management and Batterer Intervention Programs

Anger Management (AM)

AM programs focus on anger as a misunderstood and misaligned emotion which often follows fear, depression, stress, fatigue or a perceived threat or personal attack.

The situation which causes anger is not the problem, the unhealthy response to anger is the problem.

AM does not focus on partner relationship power imbalances that are present in DV cases.

Batterer Intervention Programs (BIPS)

BIPS focus on issues of power and control that play a part in domestic violence.

BIPS discuss male socialization, female socialization, substance abuse, child abuse, male domination, and the impact of domestic violence on the individual, the family and community.



Difference between Anger Management and Batterer Intervention Programs

Anger Management (AM)

AM classes are designed to assist clients only in the following areas:

Emotional intelligence
Stress management
Anger management
Communication skills



Batterer Intervention Programs (BIPS)

BIPs are deliberate and purposeful interventions that are designed to interrupt the cycle of violence.

Classes are specific and structured to adhere to well researched best practices.

BIPS do not focus on saving relationships, but rather on ending abusive and violent behavior.

Court Special Conditions

Domestic Violence Special Conditions:

Batterer Intervention Programs

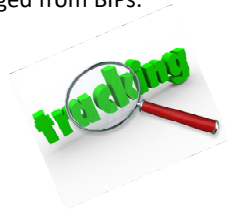


Anger Management Classes




Tracking Recidivism

Pilot Program to track participants who have completed/discharged from BIPs.










Shelter for Survivors of Domestic Violence


Sandra Dominguez

Shelters in Tennessee


33 Emergency DV Shelters in TN

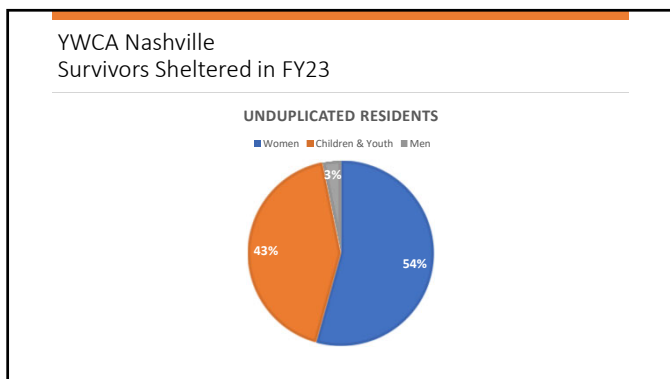

Program Length: 45-75 days, goal-based


25 Accept Men


3 Shelters Accept Pets
7 Local Partnerships with Animal Shelters

DV Crisis Calls

- 405 Crisis Calls per month
- 228 Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) Calls



Family Barriers to Safety

- 95 mothers, 173 children in FY23
- 1 in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year, and 90% of these children are eyewitnesses to this violence.

Amelia's Story

- Limited shelter space
- Orders of Protection and out of county barriers

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (2020). Domestic violence

Male Victims of Intimate Partner Violence

- 39.6% of Tennessee women and 36.8% of Tennessee men experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner rape and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetimes.

Sean's Story

- Child visitation plans that maintain victims and children safe

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (2021). Domestic violence in Tennessee. www.ncadv.org/files/Tennessee.pdf

Pets and Domestic Violence

- 71% of pet owners entering domestic violence shelters reported that their batterer had threatened, injured, or killed family pets.
- 76% of batterer perpetrated pet abuse incidents occur in the presence of children.
- 65% of victims are unable to escape abusive situations because of concerns for their pets.
- Only 17% of DV providers provide pet services.

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (2022). Domestic violence and pets.



