

Responsible Fatherhood/ Batterer's Intervention Program

Structure

The Responsible Fatherhood/Batterers Intervention Program (RF/BIP) is a pilot program underway in Sussex, Middlesex, Morris, and Atlantic Counties. The program helps fathers and families move toward a non-violent, non-coercive family structure, increase safety within the household and set clear boundaries to prevent future violence.

Services

The Batterers Intervention Program (BIP) has two primary components: training for DCF caseworkers and intervening with male perpetrators of domestic violence. RF/BIP ensures that a safety plan is in place for the non-offending parent and the child(ren). The pilot program recognizes how the interest of domestic violence survivors and the child welfare system align. It emphasizes that reducing or eliminating the safety and risk concerns posed by batterers is a shared goal and that encouraging and engaging fathers into responsible fathering can be an effective means to reduce risk to the non-offending parent and child(ren).

The RF/BIP program recognizes two underlying prevention assumptions:

- Children and their non-offending parent experience better outcomes by remaining together; and
- While working in partnership with the non-offending parent and child we may be able to provide safe engagement and accountability with perpetrators to reduce risk of harm to the non-offending parent and child(ren).

RF/BIP Pilot First Operational Year Data (2013 – 2014)

	3/1/13 6/30/13	7/1/13 9/30/13	10/1/13 12/31/13	1/1/14 3/30/14	Total
# new referrals (unduplicated)	72	66	78	90	306
# began program	61	54	61	77	253
# known to child protection	40	44	48	56	188
# group session	112	121	144	161	538
# case management services	51	99	273	454	877

QUICK FACTS

- RF/BIP services support two key Prevention Protective Factors:
 - Increasing social connections and reducing isolation
 - Having concrete support at a time of need