



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

**Comments and Information Requested Regarding
Needs, Challenges, and Best Practices for Abuse
Intervention Programs (formerly referred to as Batterer's
Intervention Programs)**

Publication Date: September 27, 2022

No Opportunity for Funding Available

Responses Due October 14, 2022, at 12:00 PM to

DCF.ASKRFP@DCF.NJ.GOV

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Commissioner

A. Goal of the Request for Information (RFI)

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) Division on Women (DOW) is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to solicit feedback on needs, challenges, and promising practices for abuse intervention programs (formerly referred to as batterer’s intervention programs). Information received in response to this RFI may be used in the future development of a solicitation for such a program and/or be used to inform state standards for abuse intervention programs. This RFI is for informational and planning purposes only. This is not a request for proposals (RFP) and does not commit DCF to develop a solicitation or contract for any programming in the future.

B. Eligibility Criteria

All responses are welcomed. DCF encourages responses from the following stakeholders: domestic violence advocates; domestic violence survivors; practicing licensed mental health professionals who have experience treating domestic violence perpetrators; community providers with experience providing treatment to domestic violence perpetrators; individuals with lived experience as a recipient of abuse intervention services; community organizers providing restorative justice practices; and faith community leaders.

C. Background

In 1974, the New Jersey Division on Women (DOW), housed within the Department of Children and Families (DCF), was established as a pioneering state agency for women's advocacy throughout the state. DOW's mission is to create, promote and expand the rights and opportunities for all women in the State of New Jersey. The Division supports the development, coordination and evaluation of programs and services for women and other constituents. DOW administers state and federal funding and oversees programming in the areas of domestic violence, sexual violence, cultural inclusion and accessibility, violence prevention, economic self-sufficiency and financial empowerment, and policy and assessment. It also collaborates with public and private entities on laws, policy, and program development.

Research indicates that when abuse intervention programs are integrated as part of a community response to domestic violence, it helps to reduce the violence by intervening on both the community and individual levels. DOW and provider agencies collaborate to operate abuse intervention programs with the shared goal of reducing domestic violence.

DCF, as demonstrated by our Strategic Plan ([DCF-strategic-plan-narrative.pdf](#)) is committed to providing high-quality services to individuals and families in NJ, informed by evidence and community voice. This RFI is the first step in informing DCF of key services needed, barriers to providing these services, and potential practices and programs for abuse intervention.

Additionally, the information gathered from this RFI may assist in the development of state standards for abuse intervention programs to ensure high-quality and effective services that enhance public safety.

D. RFI Response Questions

1. Describe your experience with individuals who have participated in abuse intervention programs. Share whether you are a provider, community member, survivor, family member, friend, etc.
2. What should a participant in an abuse intervention program achieve and/or demonstrate before they complete such a program? How should this be measured?
3. What services should abuse intervention programs offer to support participants in achieving the goals described above?
4. What are some barriers to program participation (ex. fees, transportation, language, minimization of perpetration, mental health/substance use disorders, etc.)? What are some strategies to help minimize these barriers?
5. How can programs keep participants engaged throughout the duration of the abuse intervention program?
6. How should programs be tailored to the needs of the community, especially marginalized or underserved communities (ex. Limited English Proficiency, faith-based, LGBTQ+, etc.)
7. How should participants be held accountable?
8. What are some best practices in measuring whether a participant has caused harm after completing an abuse intervention program?

E. Submission Format and Length Requirements

Respondents should submit their responses as attachments to emails.

In Subject Line of the email enter RFI-DV Abuse Interventions

- Respondents who are domestic violence survivors should not disclose personal identifying information in the attached responses.
- Email addresses of the respondents will be kept confidential and will not be forwarded to the reviewers of the attached responses.
- Attached responses should be paginated and not exceed 7 pages (double spaced), not including supporting references, charts, or spreadsheets.

E. Timeline and Submission Instructions

All responses to this RFI are due by 12:00 PM EST on October 14, 2022. Responses shall be accepted on a rolling basis. Responses may provide a basis for DCF to develop a final Request for Proposals or Request for Qualification for these services. Responders may request information and/or assistance from DCF.ASKRFP@dcf.nj.gov

Responses received after 12:00 PM EST on October 14, 2022, may not be considered in our current planning process but can be submitted at any time.