

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

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Courier # 56-20-25

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary Sherry S. Bradsher, Director (919) 733-3055

March 31, 2010

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE SERVICES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS AND STAFF

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF ON-LINE ABUSER TREATMENT PROGRAM SURVEY

The Division of Social Services and NC Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission (the Council) are participating within a Domestic Violence and Child Welfare Committee. The Council is a departmental advocacy division that provides funding, consultation and/or technical assistance to domestic violence programs including Abuser Treatment Programs (ATP) statewide. One recommendation from the Domestic Violence and Child Welfare Committee was to provide a survey in August 2009 so further information may be obtained as to how County Departments of Social Services are accessing ATP.

Thank you for your participation in the ATP survey. An analysis of the data by the Committee concluded that there may be some confusion as to the differences between ATP and anger management services as well as to what is the appropriate service for a perpetrator of domestic violence. For each of the three January 2010 MRS calls, the Council was invited to facilitate a discussion about this topic. Attached is a worksheet developed by the Council that compares the differences between anger management services and ATP. Thank you to all that participated on the call. It was met with great response and interest.

The Division would like to provide you with a link of contact information for your local ATP as well as a link to the domestic violence program guidelines. The Council contact for ATP is Kathleen Balogh at 828-251-6169 or <u>kathleen.balogh@doa.nc.gov</u>.

http://www.nccfwdvc.com/programs/pdfs/AbuserTreatmentPrograms.pdf

http://www.nccfwdvc.com/documents/grants/2010/DV%20Guidelines%202009-2010%20%20_May%2018%2009_.pdf

One quick, important item to note is that in the near future, Abuser Treatment Programs are transitioning in name to be called Batterer Intervention Programs (BIP).

The Division would like to encourage County DSS to work together at the local level to establish relationships with domestic violence and batterer intervention service providers. A few strategies may be to invite those providers to serve as members of your Community Child Protection Teams and to participate in child and family team meetings to address community and case specific concerns.

Sincerely, Chausse S. Johnson, Chief

Child Welfare Services

Attachment: Program Difference between ATP and Anger Management

CC: Sherry Bradsher Sarah Barham Hank Bowers Children's Program Representatives Family Support and Child Welfare Services Team Leaders Local Business Liaisons Work First Representatives Jack Rogers Regulatory and Licensing Consultants

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