

St. Louis County Domestic and Family Violence Council

BATTERER INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Lasting anywhere from 26 to 52 weeks, Batterer Intervention Programs, or BIPs, are intended to stop abusive behavior by teaching the Respondent essential skills for functioning in healthy relationships. The St. Louis County DV Court Batterer Compliance Program (BCP) was developed to ensure that Respondents who are ordered into a BIP are referred to the proper program and follow through with the requirement to attend.

The BCP Coordinator assists Respondents in selecting a program and, through regular communication with the selected BIP, will monitor the Respondent's participation. Respondents ordered into a BIP will have recurring Compliance Hearings, where they will be required to return to court and report to the Judge on their progress in the BIP. If Respondents choose not to comply with the conditions in the Order of Protection, contempt proceedings may be initiated that could result in significant consequences, including fines or even jail time.

BIPs are not anger management. Anger management classes are **not** sufficient for people who abuse their intimate partner for the following reasons:

- Anger management implies that the victim provokes the anger and precipitates the abuse and violence when, in fact, domestic violence is a result of the abuser purposefully using power and abuse to control the victim;
- Anger management fails to account for the pre-meditated controlling behaviors associated with domestic violence;
- Anger management tends to diffuse the responsibility of the abuse and prolong the abuser's denial;
- Anger management fails to look at the larger social issues involved in perpetuating the cycle of domestic violence.

BIPs are designed to address the above issues and others that are unique to abuse and violence within an intimate relationship. *To learn more about BIPs and the St. Louis Association of Batterer Intervention Providers (ABIP), please visit: www.abip.webs.com.*

Batterer Intervention Programs

Alternatives to Violence and Abuse (AVA)

www.bridgewaycounseling.com

(314) 486-2027

Developing Options to Violence (DOV)

(314) 623-5859

Men Ending Domestic Violence (MEDV), Provident Counseling

www.providentstl.org

(314) 371-6500

Rape and Violence Ends Now (RAVEN)

www.ravenstl.org

(314) 289-8000

Strength Through Emotions Management (STEM)

www.mindcarellc.com

(314) 997-6463