

Summer 2005

# The Green Pages

A publication of The Greenbook Project  
Grafton County, New Hampshire



The  
Greenbook  
Project  
Demonstration  
Sites

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Grafton  
County,  
New  
Hampshire

El Paso  
County,  
Colorado

San  
Francisco,  
California

Santa Clara  
County,  
California

St. Louis  
County,  
Missouri

Lane County,  
Oregon

## *The Greenbook Project*

The Greenbook Project is a federal initiative designed to bring together the court system, child protective services and domestic violence agencies to better address the needs of families when there is the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect. Grafton County is among six demonstration sites in the country selected to participate in the five year project. Greenbook is the nickname for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' publication, *Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence & Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice*. The publication and more information about the Project are available at [www.thegreenbook.info](http://www.thegreenbook.info).

### Green News...

domestic violence was present in roughly one third of the founded cases of abuse and/or neglect.

\*Almost all 2001 and 2003 court-involved co-occurrence cases involved some type of neglect of a child.

\*The adult victim of domestic violence was identified as the perpetrator of abuse and/or neglect in close to two-thirds of the co-occurrence cases in 2001 and 2003.

\*Parental substance abuse was evident in nearly half of the 2003 co-occurrence cases.

\*There was a notable increase in the percentage of initial referrals (intake summaries) that referenced domestic violence in 2003 compared to 2001.

\*A higher percentage of

2003 cases included documented evidence of screening for domestic violence.

\*A higher percentage of 2003 cases included documented evidence that domestic violence victims were referred to crisis centers.

\*A higher percentage of 2003 cases included documented evidence that domestic violence perpetrators were referred to Batterer Intervention Programs.

\*A lower percentage of the 2003 co-occurrence cases resulted in out of home placements for child abuse/neglect victims.

\*File data from both years indicated that out of home placements are extremely rare in cases in which domestic violence is the sole form of identified abuse/neglect.

### Interim Evaluation Report

Local Research Partners Kathy Kopiec and Glenda Kaufman Kantor have completed the interim evaluation report: *Interim Results from DCYF File Reviews*. The report will be posted on the Greenbook website, [www.thegreenbook.info](http://www.thegreenbook.info)

### Key Findings

The report on DCYF files presents data on 2001 and 2003 cases. Findings from 2003 are summarized and compared to findings from 2001 cases.

The following provides some, but not all, of the key findings in the report. These are selected findings and much more information that puts all findings into context is contained in the full report:

\*In 2001 and 2003,

The Greenbook Project recognizes that national statistics indicate women represent 85-95% of domestic violence victims. The project addresses all adult victims of domestic violence and their abused and neglected children.

# The Greenbook Project

## Interim Evaluation Reports—Continued from Page 1



### Children's Exposure to Battering

In January and May 2005 the cross systems work on this complicated issue continued through the combined efforts of the Domestic Violence Specialist Program and Greenbook. Greenbook staff facilitated discussions between the Domestic Violence Specialists, crisis center directors, NH Coalition staff, and DCYF supervisory staff.

In January the group identified and discussed risk and protective factors in an effort to inform when DCYF intervention is warranted in a family.

In May, utilizing case scenarios, the group identified case assessment information needed and safe mechanisms for collecting information as well as protective and risk factors present in the preliminary assessment with a particular focus on the effects of the domestic violence on the children. A discussion followed as to a safe, beneficial intervention for the family.

### Project Activity Highlights

The Project was well represented by the primary partners and CASA at the National Greenbook All Sites Conference in June in Colorado Springs. New Hampshire had 15 project participants and staff in attendance. Highlights included time for site specific meetings to reflect on the provision of real help to families and the sustainability of the project when funding ends in August 2006. System specific toolbox meetings were, as always, very useful for sharing and learning what is happening across the country. A CD of materials and products developed from all the Greenbook sites to date is available from the Grafton County Greenbook office.

On May 26th Grafton County Family Division judges met with Grafton County Batterer Intervention Program providers at Plymouth District Court. There was dialogue as to the difference between BIP and anger management, assessment procedures, program compliance with the NH State Standards for Batterer Intervention Programs and a description by the providers as to program content and process.

The Grafton County

Greenbook Project was proud to host the Project Directors from all the Greenbook sites across the country at the Mt. Washington Hotel for the annual Project Directors meeting in May. Highlights of the meeting included planning for the sustainability of the work of the projects and sharing information and ideas across sites. Grace Mattern, Executive Director of the NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, and Bernie Bluhm, Administrator at DCYF, came to talk with the directors about the Domestic Violence Specialist Program. The DVS Program in NH is a model for other states that are developing programs for co-located positions in child welfare and domestic violence advocacy.

The Crisis Center Coalition Team is working with Consultant Amy Torchia from the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence to continue work towards the team's goals that focus on enhancing work with children. Ms. Torchia is reviewing shelter intake packets and discussing training needs with crisis center staff. Lonna Davis of the Family Violence Prevention Fund facilitated a discussion in June at a crisis center exploring the implications of beginning a children's program. An advocate

from a crisis center attended training on clinical interventions with children at Boston Medical Center and will be starting a children's group in September in Plymouth. Several advocates from the Greenbook involved crisis centers will be attending training in Sept. at the Vt. Network entitled "From Minor to Major: a Focus on Children and Youth Advocacy in Domestic and Sexual Violence Programs".

### Resources Available

The Greenbook Project is always adding to its resource library. Recent book additions include [Assessing Women in Battering in Mental Health Services](#) by Edward Gondolf and [Helping Your Children Heal the Wounds of Witnessing Abuse](#) by Lundy Bancroft. The following publications from the Family Violence Prevention Fund are also available from Greenbook: [Family Team Conferences in Domestic Violence Cases, Guidelines for Practice; Advocacy Matters, Helping Mothers and Their Children; Accountability and Connection with Abusive Men; and Confidentiality & Information Sharing Issues, For Domestic Violence Advocates Working with Child Protection and Juvenile Court Systems.](#)

# The Greenbook Project

## Greenbook Staff

Katja Fox, Program Coordinator at the Grafton County Greenbook Project since the project began in 2001, left the project this summer. She will be greatly missed by the remaining staff and all project participants. Katja was a skilled facilitator, highly competent writer, and had a thorough understanding of co-occurrence issues. She was a tremendous asset to the Greenbook Project. Katja has recently started down a new career path as the Planner for the Town of Plymouth. We know that she will be as successful there as she was at Greenbook and we sincerely wish her the best.

The Greenbook Project will be hiring consulting staff to assist with targeted project activities for the last year of the project.

## Greenbook Project Participants Honored

Attorney Kristin Lamont, Director of the NH Court Improvement Project since 1997, was recently honored with the annual Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) Director's Award. The award was presented by DCYF Director Nancy Rollins at the annual DCYF Conference held May 12- 13, 2005 in Nashua. Kristy was recognized for her efforts to develop, implement and support *Protocols Relative to Child Abuse and Neglect and Permanency Planning*. The Protocols are the result of a three-year multidisciplinary initiative to enhance the court system's response to families involved in child abuse and neglect proceedings. In bestowing the award, Nancy Rollins emphasized Kristy's collaboration with many professionals dedicated to protecting children, stating that Kristy has demonstrated a unique ability to facilitate the development of relationships.

Attorney Gina Apicelli, former Greenbook Project Director and current Family Division Administrator, was honored with the 2005 Honorable William D. Paine, II Award. The award was presented at the Eleventh Statewide Conference on Domestic and Sexual Violence held in June in Bedford. Gina practiced law from 1996-2001 demonstrating an unwavering commitment to serving the victims of domestic violence and child abuse. She actively participated in both the DOVE and Pro Bono programs of the NH Bar Association. In 2001 she began the work of the Greenbook Project as its Director. Gina's selfless dedication to that cause led to a well deserved national reputation as a leader in this endeavor and established Greenbook on a solid footing from which it can conclude its mandate.

## Contact Information



The Greenbook Project  
68 Main Street  
Plymouth, NH 03264  
(603) 536-7719  
[nhgreenbook@verizon.net](mailto:nhgreenbook@verizon.net)  
[www.thegreenbook.info](http://www.thegreenbook.info)

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# [www.thegreenbook.info](http://www.thegreenbook.info)

Visit the Website for:

- A Calendar of Events for The Grafton County Greenbook Project
- Information about the six federally funded demonstration sites
- A downloadable version of *Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence & Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice (The Greenbook)*
- An overview of the federal *Greenbook* Initiative
- Resources and links pertaining to the intersection of domestic violence and child maltreatment