

Fall/Winter, 2004

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...

released in previous reports issued as certain data were gathered and analyzed.

### Key Findings

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

\*There were positive working relationships and interagency collaboration among the court, DCYF and crisis centers and NH Coalition.

\*The most often mentioned service gaps in Grafton County included affordable housing or housing assistance and mental health services.

\*Batterers enrolled in batterer intervention programs were able to

identify behaviors in their children that they attributed to the children's witnessing of domestic violence. For some batterers, the awareness of impact did not appear to carry over into understanding the rationale behind orders for no contact with their children.

\*In DCYF cases involving domestic violence, one-third of perpetrators were ordered to participate in batterer intervention programs.

\*Large proportions of defendants in civil domestic violence cases had concurrent or prior court involvement, but only a small proportion of files contained this information.

\*The types of visitation arrangements ordered in domestic violence cases varied widely.

### Baseline Evaluation Report

Local Research Partners Kathy Kopiec and Glenda Kaufman Kantor have completed The Greenbook Project's Baseline Evaluation Report: Primary Partner and Cross Systems Goals. The report presents all baseline data collected for the local evaluation of the Project, including information from focus groups, interviews, surveys, court files, DCYF files, and the primary partners' databases.

The researchers will compare the baseline data from 2001 to the data collected at the end of the Project to determine how well the systems met their individual and cross systems goals.

Much of the information in the baseline report was

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

## Baseline Evaluation Report—Continued from Page 1

### Children's Exposure to Battering

In October 2004, the cross systems Work Group began a conversation on the complicated issue of if and when children's exposure to battering rises to the level of mandatory child abuse reporting and intervention. The exploration led to a discussion about systems' responses to such situations and how those factor into the discussion. The Group will continue to explore this important topic in the months ahead, focusing on what systems already do well and what areas need to be improved.



\*Twenty-five to 40% of domestic violence victims with court-involved DCYF cases were mandated to seek crisis center services. Many advocates and victims acknowledged the potential helpfulness of this approach.

\*Crisis centers more often provided direct services to parents rather than working directly with children.

\*Crisis center advocates perceived themselves as less knowledgeable about the operations of DCYF than the court system.

\*Rates of co-occurrence in Grafton County in 2001 ranged from 28-53% depending on the source of DCYF data and the manner of treating missing data.

\*Child protective service workers (CPSWs) were most comfortable with developing safety plans directly with children and left safety planning with adult victims to others, such as the Domestic Violence Program Specialist (DVPS).

\*The majority of perpetrators of domestic

violence were ordered out of the home and separate services ordered.

\*Non-offending parents rarely had petitions for abuse/neglect specifically for failure to protect the children from domestic violence perpetrated by an adult partner.

The baseline report is expected to be available for dissemination to Greenbook participants and anyone who is interested in it by the end of the year. The report also will be posted on the Greenbook website, [www.thegreenbook.info](http://www.thegreenbook.info).

### Batterer Accountability

In an effort to meet the cross systems goal to "increase batterer accountability," the Project has taken several steps to build capacity among service providers who interact with perpetrators.

In November 2004, Greenbook held a three-day conference, *Emerge & Fathering After Violence*, in Plymouth. Among the 60 participants were batterer intervention providers from across the state, and representatives from DCYF, Juvenile Probation and Parole Services, Family Division, crisis centers, NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, CASA, and the NH Department of Corrections.

The first two days of the conference were spent on the *Emerge Model of Batterer Intervention Programs*, presented by David Adams, Ed.D and Christopher Hall of *Emerge*, the first such program in the country.

The training addresses one of the NH Batterer Intervention Standards, which requires program facilitators to participate in training in a nationally-recognized model. The training covered the history of batterer intervention programs and an overview of the *Emerge Model*, including its educational curriculum and activities. Participants also had the opportunity to engage in a role play that illustrated some methods of effective group facilitation.

On the third day of the conference, Juan Carlos Areal of the Family Violence Prevention Fund talked about the Fund's new *Fathering After Violence Project*. The presentation included information on the cultural context of fathering and the Project's exercises that are intended to be used in batterer intervention groups.

In June 2002, the Project sponsored a conference to raise awareness about batterer accountability in general and to introduce the NH Batterer Intervention Standards. That event was followed by a conference in January 2003 that covered the information contained in the NH Batterer Intervention Standards in-depth.

## Addressing Accountability for Batterers in Co-Occurrence Cases: The Fathering After Violence Project



Plymouth, NH ~ On November 17, 2004, Juan Carlos Arean of the Family Violence Prevention Fund presented on the Fund's Fathering After Violence Project to nearly 60 participants in a three-day conference dedicated to building the capacity of service providers and systems to address accountability for batterers in cases involving the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect.

### Contact Information

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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