



OJJDP FACT SHEET

May 2001 #21

The “Green Book” Demonstration

by Kristen Kracke

Although it has long been known that domestic violence and child maltreatment often go hand in hand, researchers still have questions about how often these behaviors co-occur, with estimates ranging from 30 to 60 percent.¹ In recognition of how these problems are intertwined, communities and professionals have begun to address domestic violence and child abuse cases together rather than as two separate, unrelated events requiring different legal and social service responses.

Background

To address the need for a more integrated approach to family violence, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) established an advisory committee of professionals from the courts, child welfare, domestic violence services, Federal agencies, and the academic community. This committee developed recommendations for interventions and ways to measure progress in communities seeking to improve their responses to families experiencing both domestic violence and child maltreatment. These recommendations were published by NCJFCJ in *Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice*, which is referred to as the “Green Book.” The guidelines serve as a framework for the Federal interagency demonstration project, Collaborations To Address Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment.

The Green Book Initiative

This interagency demonstration project, referred to as the Green Book Initiative, supports the implementation of the recommended policy and practice guidelines featured in the Green Book. Within selected jurisdictions, the Initiative fosters and enhances collaborations among domestic violence service providers; child protective services; juvenile, family, and criminal courts; and

community groups, with the goal of providing more effective ways to achieve safety and well-being for intimate partner victims and their children. The guidelines recommend ways to develop and implement cross-system policy and staff development, improve procedures within each system to better achieve safety and prevent further abuse of adult and child victims, hold batterers accountable, and seek greater community resources to serve victims and their families.

In December 2000, six sites were competitively selected to implement this collaborative approach: El Paso County, CO; Grafton County, NH; Lane County, OR; St. Louis County, MO; San Francisco, CA; and Santa Clara County, CA. Each demonstration site receives up to \$350,000 per year for 3 years. Policies and

Federal Collaborative Agencies

U.S. Department of Justice

Violence Against Women Office

Office for Victims of Crime

National Institute of Justice

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Children and Families, Children’s Bureau

Administration for Children and Families, Family Violence Program

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation



¹ Schechter, S., and Edleson, J.L. 1999. *Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice*. Reno, NV: National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

practices include cross-system collaboration in identification, safety planning, case management, advocacy, protection, and proper sharing of information; perpetrator accountability; and service provision. The goal of each site is to improve responses that protect and empower victims of abuse and their children.

The Initiative has three additional components: a comprehensive national evaluation, a national consortium of training and technical assistance resources, and a team of Federal partners. The national evaluation is being conducted by Caliber Associates of Fairfax, VA, and its partners, the National Center for State Courts of Williamsburg, VA, and the Education Development Center of Newton, MA. The national evaluators collaborate with local evaluators at each site. The evaluation will provide information on promising practices and policy changes being implemented at the sites.

The training and technical assistance component is led by NCJFCJ in partnership with the Family Violence Prevention Fund of San Francisco, CA, and the American Public Human Services Association of Washington, DC. This consortium of providers offers expertise in the areas of the courts, domestic violence, and child welfare. Together, these providers support the sites and promote the work of the Initiative through liaisons and peer guidance, provision and brokering of technical assistance from expert consultants, and outreach and transfer of knowledge from child welfare and domestic violence communities.

Jointly funded by the U.S. Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services, the Green Book Initiative is managed by a team of eight Federal agencies and offices. This team works with the sites and with the national evaluation and training and technical assistance partners to implement the Green Book guidelines and

to transfer and disseminate knowledge and skills learned through this demonstration process to other communities that are developing new responses to ensure the safety and well-being of victims of family violence.

For Further Information

For information on the Green Book Initiative, contact Jerry Silverman (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation), chair of the Federal team, at 202-690-5654. For information on the national evaluation, contact Caliber Associates at 703-385-3200. For information on training and technical assistance and for additional information on domestic violence and child maltreatment, contact NCJFCJ's Family Violence Department at 800-527-3223 or 775-784-6628.

To obtain copies of the Green Book, call NCJFCJ's Resource Center on Domestic Violence: Child Protection and Custody at 800-527-3223. The first copy is free; additional copies are \$15 each. To access the Green Book on the Internet, visit the NCJFCJ Family Violence Department Web site, www.nationalcouncilfvd.org.

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The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, and the Office for Victims of Crime.

FS-200121

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