

STATE OF OHIO



DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION
AND CORRECTION

SUBJECT: Domestic Violence Programming	PAGE <u> 1 </u> OF <u> 3 </u>
	NUMBER: 03-OVS-07
RULE/CODE REFERENCE:	SUPERSEDES: 03-OVS-07 dated 08/27/12
RELATED ACA STANDARDS:	EFFECTIVE DATE: October 24, 2014
	APPROVED: 

I. AUTHORITY

This policy is issued in compliance with Ohio Revised Code 5120.01 which delegates to the Director of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction the authority to manage and direct the total operations of the Department and to establish such rules and regulations as the Director prescribes.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish operational policies and procedures for domestic violence programming within the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

III. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to persons employed by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC), independent contractors providing a service to the Department, inmates, and volunteers.

IV. DEFINITIONS

Batterer - The perpetrator of Domestic Violence.

Domestic Violence - A pattern of coercive behavior used by one person to establish or maintain power and control over family or household members, which includes intimate partners, spouses, former spouses, persons living together as spouses, person who have a child in common (regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time), and adult persons related by blood or marriage. Domestic violence can be non-physical, physical or aggravated physical violence.

Domestic violence may include physical violence, sexual, emotional, and psychological intimidation, verbal abuse, stalking, and economic control, and may occur among people of all racial, economic, educational, religious backgrounds, in heterosexual and same sex relationships.

Program Facilitator – A DRC employee who has received specialized training through the Office of Victim Services to facilitate the Personal Responsibility of Violence Elimination (P.R.O.V.E.) program.

V. POLICY

It is the policy of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to provide domestic violence programming through the Personal Responsibility of Violence Elimination (P.R.O.V.E.) batterer's intervention program. This program shall be offered to offenders whose offenses include domestic violence behaviors for the purpose of reducing the risk of re-offending. P.R.O.V.E. shall be facilitated in, but not limited to, reintegration units and selected Adult Parole Authority regions and shall be administered and monitored through the Office of Victim Services.

VI. PROCEDURES

A. Facilitator Selection and Training

1. Recruitment/Screening - The Office of Victim Services shall notify Managing Officers of scheduled trainings for facilitators. Selection shall be based upon current program delivery sites for the batterer's intervention program, current program needs, those institutions designated as reintegration units, and applicant interviews facilitated by OVS staff.
2. Facilitator Training - All employees selected to conduct the program must attend the initial 40-hour training and any on-going training as determined by the OVS. The training will be conducted for all new and existing facilitators to gain the information/experience necessary to meet the needs of the program.
3. Maintaining Facilitator Status - Each facilitator shall be monitored by the Office of Victim Services for quality of work, ethical conduct, adherence to program implementation, and timely completion of assignments.
4. Termination of Facilitator Status - If it is found that any facilitator is not complying with the procedures outlined in this policy and/or any other batterer's intervention programming responsibilities, they may be removed from their role within the program at the discretion of the OVS Administrator or Managing Officer.

B. Program Eligibility

1. Those offenders housed in a male reintegration unit and convicted of domestic violence and/or domestic violence related offenses are eligible to complete the P.R.O.V.E. batterer's intervention program. Domestic violence related offenses shall include any offense of violence against a current or former intimate partner. Offender must have at least 6 months left to serve of their imposed sentence and shall be assessed according to the offender eligibility checklist.
2. Case managers, unit managers, or other staff as appropriate may recommend the P.R.O.V.E. batterer's intervention programming for offenders whose criminal behavior is in accordance with the eligibility requirements.

3. Judges, Ohio Parole Board, Adult Parole Authority, or other community professionals may recommend the P.R.O.V.E. batterer's intervention programming for offenders on supervision whose criminal behavior is in accordance with the eligibility requirements.

C. Program Administration

1. All facilitators must adhere to the guidelines and document activities as established in the P.R.O.V.E. manual including completion of required departmental forms.
2. All domestic violence programming within the male institutions must follow the curriculum as set forth by the Office of Victim Services.
3. The program sessions shall be two hours in length and shall be conducted on a weekly basis for no less than 18 weeks in duration. Any and all program changes shall require prior authorization from the Office of Victim Services.
4. To provide a mechanism for evaluation, all homework, intake forms and other required paperwork as outlined in the PROVE manual shall be forwarded to the OVS once the participant has completed the program.
5. As the facilitator documents the participation of the offender group members, any notes shall be non-judgmental and only re-state information provided by the participants.
6. An evaluation shall be completed by the participant after every group meeting as well as an overall evaluation on the last day of group.