



STATE OF WISCONSIN

## GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE

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**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE**  
Domestic Abuse Treatment Standards Review Committee  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**10/23/25**

**Meeting was held virtually**

**Council Members Present**

None

**Committee Members Present**

Gary Zajc

Julie Valadez

Kevin Hamberger

Melody Hansen

Darrald Hansa

**DCF Staff:**

Stacey Cicero

**Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

**Topics Discussed**

Gary welcomed the group and reviewed the documents shared following the previous meeting.

The primary goal of this session was to:

- Finalize the agenda for the upcoming full-day meeting.
- Begin aligning around revised core values for domestic violence intervention programming.
- Identify follow-up items and next steps, including drafting assignments and a review timeline.

**1. Agenda for the Full-Day Meeting**

The proposed structure for the full day working session includes two major components:

**Morning: Establishing Core Values**

- Review and update values from the 2007 standards.
- Ensure the values reflect:
  - Gender-informed and intersectional approaches.
  - Inclusivity of populations currently underserved or misunderstood.
  - Trauma-informed, evidence-informed, and equity-focused frameworks.

**Afternoon: Application and Implementation**

- Translate values into standards.

**2. Philosophical Framing and Key Themes**

**A. Values as Anchors**

**B. Importance of Inclusive Language and Approaches**

- The updated standards must be better reflected.

### **3. Defining Accountability and Success**

#### **Discussion Highlights:**

- Accountability should include:
  - Survivor feedback.
  - Partner and community engagement.
  - Behavioral change and emotional regulation.
  - Program completion alone is insufficient to define success.
- Consider if outcome definitions differ when children are involved.
- Programming should take parenting status into account.

### **4. Holistic and Systemic Approaches**

#### **Wraparound Services and Systems Coordination**

- The group discussed the need for holistic support
- Concern was raised about uninformed or harmful interventions from other providers.

### **5. Cultural Responsiveness and Community Engagement**

#### **Gary and others emphasized:**

- Standards must promote culturally grounded programming.
- One-size-fits-all models are ineffective.
- Values and curricula should reflect community norms, family dynamics, and culturally specific practices.
- Curriculum should reflect diverse understandings of family, discipline, and accountability.

### **6. Ethical Standards and Data Collection**

#### **Gary introduced a proposal to add:**

- Explicit ethical standards for those facilitating DV programs.
- Guidance on managing conflicts of interest.
- Involvement of survivors in program design and evaluation.
- Encouragement (or requirement) of data collection beyond recidivism.

### **7. Drafting Plan and Stakeholder Feedback**

#### **Next Steps:**

- Assign drafting responsibilities for standard revisions.
- Set a timeline for returning draft language.
- Gather broader stakeholder input after drafts are complete.

#### **Rationale:**

- Draft-first model allows for more efficient and inclusive stakeholder engagement.
- Review process will help build buy-in and ensure quality across sectors.

### **8. Planning the Full-Day Virtual Meeting**

#### **Final Decision:**

- **Date:** Friday, November 21
- **Time:** 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- **Location:** Virtual (Zoom or equivalent)
- **Purpose:** Deep dive into value alignment, draft revision topics, and working group formation.

### **9. Comparative Models and Resources**

### **10. Closing Remarks**

- Attendees expressed appreciation for the thoughtful planning and collaborative tone.

- Recognized the complexity of the work but affirmed its importance and potential impact.
- Encouraged continued engagement and stakeholder involvement throughout the drafting process.

## **Adjourn**