



## Code of Ethics for Batterers Intervention Program Providers

### FORM A

AS A BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM PROVIDER, I DO AFFIRM:

1. I will make victim safety my first priority in working with men who batter.
2. I will make accountability of men who batter and program accountability my second priority.
  - (a) I will immediately report to all appropriate legal authorities
    - Any additional violence (which includes but is not limited to physical violence, stalking, criminal trespass, and invasion of privacy) admitted to by a BIP participant.
    - Any suspected neglect or abuse of a child or protected adult.
    - Any additional violence by a BIP participant sworn to by a third person, where such reporting will not further endanger the victim or witness.
  - (b) I will help prevent the unethical or unskilled practice of BIP intervention. I will report to the appropriate authorities any practice of BIP intervention by untrained or unqualified persons and any unethical conduct or unprofessional modes of practice by other BIP providers.
3. I will collaborate with advocates against domestic violence in the design and overseeing of our BIP's work. I will welcome independent advocates to oversee, observe, and give feedback about the Program and services provided. I will participate in a coordinated community response against domestic violence. I will respect the limits of present knowledge in my public statements and not make any claims that are not substantiated by valid studies and statistics developed in collaboration with independent victim advocates.
4. I will conduct myself in my personal and professional life in a manner consistent with the principles of nonviolence and sobriety. I will be vigilant regarding my own power and control issues, seeking to identify and change any sexist, racist, and homophobic attitude in my personal belief system. I will not use physical violence or tactics of abuse. If I have been physically violent, I will document completion of a certified BIP and/or will comply with such other measures of accountability required by the BIP committee of ICADV. I will be violence-free in my own life for three years prior to facilitating in a BIP. I will not abuse drugs, including prescription drugs, or alcohol. I will be alcohol and drug free when performing BIP services. If I have an addiction problem (including substance, gambling and sexual addictions), I will undergo treatment and attain sobriety as a precondition to providing BIP services. I will immediately disclose to the manager of my BIP if I am arrested for or have been convicted of any related charge, including, but not limited to, battery, domestic battery, stalking, criminal trespass, invasion of privacy, abuse or neglect of a child or protected adult, or any charge involving drugs, alcohol, gambling, pornography or other sex-related crime.
5. I will avoid personal, professional, or business relationships that conflict with the interest of the BIP and those it serves.

I will never engage in a relationship with a present or past program participant, a partner or ex-partner of a participant, or a family member of a participant that

would in any way compromise their health and well-being or the complete integrity of the BIP, or that could impair professional judgment, or increase the risk of exploitation. I will avoid even the appearance of impropriety. I will not engage in any behavior with any of these persons that I would be unwilling to disclose fully to my colleagues, legal authorities, and the public. Specifically, I will not engage in sexual or romantic activities with participants, victims, partners, or their family members for at least two years after last professional contact, and even then, not where such behaviors could reasonably contribute to the suffering of any person or the impairment of the BIP intervention effort. I will avoid working with participants who have close relationships with members of my family or significant business associates. I will not accept gifts or benefits from participants that might impair the integrity of the relationship or might invite special treatment.

6. I will treat all program participants, their partners, and victims fairly. I will not discriminate because of race, class, age, religion, educational attainment, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, or economic condition. I will act to guarantee that all persons, especially the needy, the disadvantaged, and those outside the cultural and language mainstream, have equal access to BIP resources and services. I will charge fees that are fair, reasonable, and consistent with a participant's ability to pay. I will fully explain from the beginning all program rules and policies affecting fee payment, enrollment, program standard, discharge, and completion. I will apply consistent program rules to all participants.
7. I will protect the confidentiality of participants, their partners, families, and victims, subject to the primary duty of victim safety. In doing so, I will follow the rules established by state and federal law, by the ICADV standards, and by my BIP.
8. I will protect and enhance the professionalism, dignity, and integrity of the BIP. I will never participate in lessening program quality or duration for pecuniary or personal reasons. I will not offer services, testimony, or public pronouncements outside the recognized boundaries of my competency. I will not misrepresent my qualifications, education, experience, affiliations, or memberships.
9. I have read and agree to adhere to the ICADV Standards for Batterer Intervention Programs.

I agree ICADV may truthfully reveal to the general public my certification status, and findings and conclusions issued by ICADV in response to allegations of ethical violations. I agree to cooperate with investigations of ethical violations and hereby waive any claim against ICADV for receiving or investigating complaints and for publishing their findings and conclusions.

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Signature

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Date

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Printed Name