

2022 Domestic Violence Offender Treatment or Intervention Programs Approved Provider Application

1 INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE

The Children, Youth and Families Department, Behavioral Health Services Division, Domestic Violence Unit is tasked with approving Domestic Violence Offender Treatment or Intervention (DVOTI) Programs in New Mexico, which makes them eligible for:

- Inclusion on the DVOTI Approved Provider List
- Court-ordered referrals pursuant to NMSA 1978 Sections 30-3-15 (Battery against a household member) and 30-3-16 (Aggravated battery against a household member),
- Referrals from the CYFD Protective Services Division, and
- Funding through CYFD as provided by the DVOTI Fund and additional allocations.

2 ELIGIBILITY

Providers must comply with the DVOTI program requirements outlined in the [DRAFT] CYFD Domestic Violence Offender Treatment and Intervention Project Standards, which are based on NMSA 1978 Sections 31-12-12 and NMAC 8.8.7. These include:

- General operations and administrative requirements
- Personnel requirements, including training
- Program requirements
- Critical incident reporting
- Complaint policies and procedures

Note: Approval of programs does not guarantee funding, which is applied for in a separate application. The funding application will be available to all Approved DVOTI Providers in the spring of 2021 for State Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023).

3 APPROVAL TERM

The approval of DVOTI providers operates on a calendar year basis, as set by Statute, from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.

If the CYFD Domestic Violence Unit determines that a Provider needs to bring some aspect of their program into compliance before inclusion in the Approved Provider List for 2022 and that this can be accomplished within the first quarter of 2022, they may issue a “Conditional Approval”. Under

conditional approval, the Provider will be included in the Approved Provider List upon their demonstration that the identified compliance issues are corrected, which must happen no later than March 31, 2022. Conditionally approved providers who do not correct the identified compliance issues by March 31, 2022 will not be approved in 2022 but may reapply for 2023.

4 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Providers wishing to apply to be included on the Approved Provider List must submit a request for a unique link to the online application to the CYFD BHS Domestic Violence Unit (davidb.river@state.nm.us or Albert.Abeita@state.nm.us). Applications can be submitted up to 11:59 p.m. on Monday, November 15th, 2021. Applications can be saved and edited until submitted through the unique link provided by the Domestic Violence Unit.

Application Contents:

- General business information, including contact information of program leadership, a copy of current business license, general and professional liability insurance certificates, a current schedule of DVOTI groups (days/times/locations/types);
- Program funding information (part of DVOTI planning and policy efforts), including participant fee schedules;
- Program locations;
- Program components, including program policies & procedures, participant orientation materials, and the participant contract;
- Information about curriculum/curricula in use;
- Information about each DVOTI facilitator, including a summary of recent training and supervision activities related to DVOTI programming;
- Information about language access to DVOTI program;
- Information about community coordination/CCR activities (optional inclusion of letters of support from DV Advocacy Organizations and Courts).

Note: Letters of support from advocacy organizations and courts are optional for 2022 but will be required for 2023.

5 APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application Due Date:	11:59 p.m., November 15, 2021
Determinations/Approval Letters:	December 15, 2021
Approved Provider List Generated:	January 1, 2022
Last date for Conditional Approval Inclusion:	March 31, 2022

6 QUESTIONS REGARDING APPLICATION

For questions regarding the 2022 application, please contact Albert Abeita, Domestic Violence Specialist at (505) 318-7301 or albert.abeita@state.nm.us.

7 PROPOSAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The DV Unit will review applications and recommend approval and denials to the CYFD Behavioral Health Services Director, who will make the final determination. Appeals of denials can be directed to Danielle Cossett, CYFD Behavioral Health Services Director at Danielle.cossett@state.nm.us.

8 CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL

8.1 REQUIRED ELEMENTS:

The following program elements are required by New Mexico Statute and Code. Non-compliance with any of these elements may result in approved program denial:

- The goals of the DVOTI Program focus on the cessation of abuse or violence, whether physical or non-physical (NMAC 8.8.7.10(F))
- Program is mindful of the safety of the victim, current partner, and children (NMAC 8.8.7.10(F))
- Duty to warn potential victims of threats of imminent harm and other mandatory reporting requirements designed to protect victim, potential victims, and children (NMAC 8.8.7.10(H))
- A policy and procedure for the ongoing assessing for danger during the time the Program Participant is enrolled in the program NMAC 8.8.7.10(G), including notification of people responsible for the supervision of the Program Participant.
- Individual sessions to address crisis management or case management issues will not replace group sessions (NMAC 8.8.7.10(K))
- Marriage counseling, family therapy and counseling for couples shall not be a component of an approved domestic violence offender treatment or intervention program (NMAC 8.8.7.10(M))
- The DVOTI program must consist of at least 52 weeks of group sessions lasting no less than ninety (90) minutes each
- DVOTI groups must maintain a staff to client ratio of 1:12 with the group size limited to no more than 20 NMAC 8.8.7.10(L)
- A domestic violence offender may not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs during a treatment session;
- Offenders under the age of 18 may be enrolled in intervention groups so long as they are separate from adult groups NMAC 8.8.7.10(E);
- Group sessions are limited to members of the same gender NMSA 34-15.2(D)(3);
- Group sessions must be strictly limited to domestic violence offenders and cannot include other classes of offenders. NMAC 8.8.7.10(P)
- Curriculum in use must (NMAC 8.8.7.10(I)):

- Define physical, emotional, sexual, economic, and verbal abuse and techniques for stopping those forms of abuse
- Examine gender roles, socialization, the nature of violence, the dynamics of power and control and the effects of domestic violence on children
- Facilitate the offender acknowledging responsibility for abusive actions and consequences of actions
- Identify and offer alternatives to the offender's belief system that facilitate abusive behaviors
- Increase the offender's empathic skills to enhance ability to empathize with the survivor/victim
- Assure that the offender history of trauma never takes precedence over his/her responsibility to be accountable for violent behavior and potential offense, or be used as an excuse, rationalization, or distraction from being held accountable
- Educate the offender on the potential for re-offending and signs of abuse escalation
- Assist the offender in developing a written re-offense prevention plan
- Increase the offender's understanding of the impact violence on adult intimate victims and children
- Educate the offender on the legal ramifications of his/her violence
- Teach the offender self-management techniques to avoid abusive behavior
- DVOTI Facilitators must:
 - Complete a 40-hour domestic violence training, preferably one offered by the New Mexico State or Tribal Coalitions
 - Pass a CYFD background check
 - Be certified in the ODARA tool
 - Complete a minimum of eight (8) hours of DVOTI-related training in previous 12 months
- Each DVOTI Program shall make a good faith effort to establish a cooperative working relationship with a local domestic violence victim services provider. The DVOTI participates to the extent possible in the local coordinated community response team working to reduce domestic violence NMAC 8.8.7.10(O)

8.2 ADDITIONAL EVALUATION ELEMENTS

The Department strongly encourages the following additional program elements:

- Significant training and supervision of DVOTI facilitators. Prior to any solo group facilitation, we recommend:
 - 40 hours DVOTI-specific training in the curriculum and group facilitation skills
 - Significant observation and co-facilitation (20-30 hours)
 - Significant supervision with an experienced facilitator (at least monthly for six months)
- Ongoing supervision (several hours per month) for all facilitators with immediate supervisor or outside expert, focused on growth and development as a group facilitator
- Work to develop community coordination or a coordinated community response
- Feedback from courts, DV advocacy organizations, survivors, and program participants

9 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

All Approved DVOTI Programs are required to participate in the multi-year DVOTI outcomes project with the UNM Evaluation Lab, which includes submitting a listing of all DVOTI Program Participants, their ODARA score, and various information about program participation each January for the previous calendar year.

All **Funded** DVOTI Programs shall submit regular reports to the CYFD DV Unit according to contract requirements to minimally include, but not be limited to, monthly data required by the CYFD DV Unit.

10 PROJECT STANDARDS

DVOTI Program Standards are in draft form, pending Departmental Approval. Please contact albert.abeita@state.nm.us for a copy of the program standards.