

Applicant Name:

Applicant Licensure, if applicable:

Phone:

Domestic Violence Counseling Court Approval Form

Email:

Notice: A Domestic Violence Assessment is required in DV Court cases and must be filed under seal into the Justice Court case prior to initiation of counseling. If you would like to be approved by the Court to perform counseling assessments, please submit a Domestic Violence Assessment Court Approval Application. You may email the completed application to DV Court Coordinator Rebecca Calabrese at rcalabrese@missoulacounty.us.

DV Court intends to ensure that programs providing domestic violence counseling or Abusive Partner Intervention meet (or align as closely as possible with) standards outlined by the Montana Board of Crime Control. You can find those standards here: <https://mbcc.mt.gov/docs/Programs/Victim-Services/Grants/Other/Adopted-OIPS-Dec.-13-2018.pdf>

The following are excerpts from that guidance:

“In developing the standards, the MBCC recognizes:

- Victim conduct is an invalid excuse for using violence; and
- Anger management and mental health treatment are not substitutes for domestic violence offender intervention” (MBCC OIP Standards, p. 1).

“The following methods are not permitted components of an OIP:

- 1) Anger management treatment identifying anger, communication difficulty or conflict as cause for violent behavior;
- 2) Physical containment methods;
- 3) Psychodynamic individual or group therapy that assumes the primary cause of violence to be a lack of impulse control, mental illness or psychopathology, previous victimization, stress, substance abuse or any combination thereof;
- 4) Substance use disorder treatment defining violence as an addiction and those harmed as codependent in or enabling of the violence;
- 5) Marriage, couples, or family counseling; or
- 6) Systems theory” (MBCC OIP Standards, p. 13).

1. Please describe any training you have received regarding Intimate Partner Violence dynamics:

2. Please describe any experience you have working with either survivors of intimate partner violence and/or people who have harmed their partner(s):

3. Do you plan to use an evidence-informed or evidence-based curriculum? Yes ☐ No ☐
Please explain your answer. If yes, please describe the curriculum:

4. Are you willing to receive collateral information from the court and partner with local advocacy organizations to receive information from survivors? Yes ☐ No ☐

4a. Please explain your answer to item 4:

5. Do you agree to provide progress reports to the court? (Progress reports should not include specific details about what is shared by the participant. Progress reports should include information such as topics discussed (curriculum topics) and participant willingness to engage and apply topics to life situations). ☐ Yes ☐ No

5a. If necessary, please explain your answer to item 5.

The next questions are required for those planning to facilitate groups. If you are planning to provide individual counseling, you do not need to answer the following questions.

6. If planning to facilitate a group, do you have a list of agreements for participation in the group that includes consequences for behavior that violates those agreements?

Yes ☐ No ☐

6a. Please explain your answer to item 6:

5. Do you have a policy that disallows a certain number of unexcused absences from group sessions?

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____