

## **Supporting Healthy Relationships** **Domestic Violence Prevention/Intervention Programming** *Application Information*

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The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch (CSCP), invites applications from community (not-for-profit) organizations for one-time grant funding of up to \$60,000 per organization. Funding will support organizations that presently deliver domestic violence prevention/intervention programming to perpetrators prior to the charge, conviction or sentencing stage of the criminal justice process. With this funding, CSCP anticipates supporting 10-12 organizations.

Funding will support these organizations in:

1. Enhancing or expanding programming (see page 5 for accepted enhancements);
2. Delivering programming;
3. Participating in evaluation activities (led by CSCP-identified evaluator); and
4. Participating in a Community of Practice comprised of all successful grant recipients, government partners, subject-matter experts, and the evaluation team.

### Key Dates

Open Call Issue Date: October 17, 2016

Application Submission Deadline: **November 14, 2016, 4:30pm**

Project Funding Duration: December 1, 2016 to October 31, 2018

### Restrictions

- Eligible applicants are limited to British Columbia not-for-profit organizations with existing program(s) addressing domestic violence prior to the charge, conviction, or sentencing stage of the criminal justice process.
- Please note that funding is limited and not all applicants will receive funding.
- Funding is one-time only.
- Funding for this initiative cannot be used for couples counselling.

### Requirements of Successful Applicants

Funded organizations must:

- Name one representative to participate in a Community of Practice (see p. 2—Project Coordination). The Community of Practice will convene in-person and via teleconference three to five times over the course of the 23-month funding period.
- Be willing to work with a CSCP-identified evaluator who will conduct a process and initial impacts evaluation of all funded programs. Organizations are required to provide program materials to the evaluator; work collaboratively with the evaluator; and dedicate a portion of their budget to working with the evaluator.
- Submit an interim report by December 1, 2017 and final report by October 31, 2018. Reports will summarize all project activities and how grant funds were spent.

## Application Submission

Completed application forms must be submitted no later than **4:30pm on November 14, 2016** by email to: [Lorinda.Stoneman@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lorinda.Stoneman@gov.bc.ca)

## Questions

Please contact Lorinda Stoneman with any questions no later than November 10<sup>th</sup> at noon at 604-660-4897 or [Lorinda.Stoneman@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lorinda.Stoneman@gov.bc.ca)

## Project Overview

Funding has become available as part of the three-year *Provincial Domestic Violence Plan* released by the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence (PODV) in February 2014. The Plan includes a commitment to support programming and intervention services for perpetrators of domestic violence prior to the charge, conviction, or sentencing stage of the criminal justice process in response to stakeholder concerns that most services for perpetrators are available only after a person has been convicted or has become involved with the criminal justice system.

This project includes the selection and funding of community (not-for-profit) organizations that presently deliver this type of programming, through an open grant call. Successful organizations will be funded to expand or develop enhancements to their existing programming and deliver the programming over a period of 18-months.

In addition to the delivery of direct service, this project underscores the importance of evaluation throughout program delivery and during follow up, and as such, asks successful organizations to work with a government-identified evaluator (including utilizing data collection tools as outlined by the evaluator). Through this evaluation, the project aims to identify key successes and best transferrable practices that are meaningful for grant holders and for BC communities more widely.

## Project Goals

Programs that are expanded/enhanced, delivered, and evaluated will:

1. Contribute to the safety and well-being of victims who have experienced, or are at-risk of experiencing, domestic violence; and
2. Support changes in behaviour for perpetrators of domestic violence and the fostering of healthy intimate relationships.

## Project Coordination

Community organizations are expected to lead their program expansion/enhancement and delivery. A Community of Practice will be established for grant recipients, subject matter experts, government partners, and the evaluation team. The Community of Practice will convene in-person and via teleconference three to five times over the course of the funding. It is expected that a program representative attends each Community of Practice meeting.

## Timeline

This project will be completed over multiple years and in several stages:

### **Development Stage** (December 1, 2016 to February 28, 2017)

During the development stage, community organizations will enhance program components according to their plans and will undertake promotion of their programs to develop and/or grow a client base. Community organizations will make program materials available to the evaluator throughout this stage as they are finalized. This phase will also include consultation with the evaluator regarding logistics and planning, and the evaluator's development of the evaluation framework.

### **Implementation/ Evaluation Stage** (March 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018)

Programs will be delivered over an 18-month period (may include several cycles). It is expected that the evaluation framework and data collection tools will be implemented during this phase. Program delivery ends by August 31, 2018.

### **Evaluation/ Reporting Stage** (September 1, 2018 to October 31, 2018)

Community organizations will complete individualized reporting out. The evaluator will prepare final evaluation reports for each program and a final report roll up for the collection of programs during this stage. Results of all reporting and evaluation may be presented to the Community of Practice at the final meeting.

## The 4 Mandatory Program Requirements

Eligible organizations must presently deliver a domestic violence prevention/intervention program to perpetrators prior to the charge, conviction or sentencing stage of the criminal justice process (i.e., at least one cycle within the past 12 to 18 months) that:

1. Is delivered in a group setting with no more than 20 clients per cycle;
  - o *In unique circumstances where an organization presently delivers their programming in a non-group setting, an exception to this requirement may be made. To be considered for this exception, applicants must clearly articulate in part 4a of the application form why the group format is inappropriate in the context in which the program is delivered (e.g., community population is not large enough to gather enough clients for a group).*
2. Is designed to include a series of sequential sessions that clients attend from start to finish (i.e., a cohort design);
3. Is delivered by one or more qualified practitioners; and
4. Can be offered at no cost to clients for the duration of this funding.

## The 5 Preferred Criteria

As a result of research and consultation undertaken by CSCP from March 2015 to May 2016, a number of preferred program components have been identified. Preference will be given to proposals that articulate how the current program meets the following criteria:

1. Is **eclectic in its approach**, drawing on a blend of theoretical foundations such as elements of social learning, feminist, response-based, and/or systems theory, and incorporating a variety of therapeutic techniques (e.g., psychoeducational, cognitive behavioural etc.).
2. Includes the following **topics**:
  - a. assertiveness and communication skills;
  - b. healthy relationships and their maintenance;
  - c. conflict resolution and management;
  - d. managing stress;
  - e. empathy and accountability;
  - f. self-esteem;
  - g. impacts of substance use, trauma and mental health issues;
  - h. impacts of and types of abuse;
  - i. parenting skills;
  - j. controlling behaviours; and
  - k. thought patterns, attitudes and beliefs.
3. Includes careful **screening and intake assessments** that: determine suitability and/or readiness of applicants; provide some early insights into an applicant's behaviours, thinking and attitudes; and designate as ineligible applicants who:
  - a. Have serious charges/highest risk individuals that may be better served by a different form or level of intervention;
  - b. Are assessed as having a high-level of denial/unwillingness to change;
  - c. Are found to have a serious mental health or substance use illness at levels contraindicating group therapy; and/or
  - d. Are determined to be openly hostile and disruptive to the group/cohort process.
4. Prioritizes and emphasizes the **values of anti-violence work and the safety of victims and children** in all aspects of program delivery which includes assisting victims/survivors to understand that the perpetrator's participation in a behaviour change program is not guaranteed to result in the perpetrator stopping violence. This may include:
  - a. The use of safety assessments.
  - b. An established referral protocol to local community-based victim services/violence against women services.
  - c. Processes to invite contact with victims during initial intake, throughout program delivery and/or afterwards as funding permits (e.g., victims invited to remain connected with the program facilitator or other staff person from the organization).
  - d. Provision of information and resources on where to access support, referrals to appropriate services, and general information about the program to partners, family, and in particular victims and children.
5. Recognizes that the nature of domestic violence requires a **focus on prevention of relapse** to sustain behaviour change and prioritizes client retention and continued supports for clients after a program ends. For example:

- a. Strategies or incentives to improve client retention.
- b. Resources and tools for clients upon completion.
- c. After care groups for clients who have completed the program and/or processes that allow clients to participate as mentors.

## Enhancements

Organizations are required to expand and/or develop and implement enhancements to their existing programs. These may include (but are not limited to) one or more of the following:

- Expanded geographic reach.
- An increase in the number of clients served.
- Enhancements related to incorporating any one or more of the five preferred criteria not already met by the existing program.

## Assessment Criteria

Applicants must complete the application form available at:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/victims-of-crime/service-providers/information-resources>

Evaluation and selection of proposals will be determined by a review committee against a rubric based on the following assessment criteria:

1. Proposal clearly describes the existing program and demonstrates how the programming fits the goals of the funding. Proposal includes the following about the existing program:
  - a. Purposes, goals, and anticipated outcomes;
  - b. Theoretical and philosophical approach;
  - c. Therapeutic techniques;
  - d. Program topics;
  - e. Screening and assessment practices;
  - f. Group size, structure, and length;
  - g. Model of facilitation;
  - h. Victim resources and engagement; and
  - i. Client after care.
2. Proposal clearly articulates how the existing program meets each of the four mandatory program requirements.
2. Proposal clearly articulates if and how the existing program currently meets the preferred criteria.
3. Planned expansions/enhancements are clearly articulated, reasonably achievable, and consistent with the goals of the funding.
4. The need for the enhanced/expanded program in the specific community of delivery is clearly established and is compelling. The proposal also identifies the expected client reach and geographic area for program delivery.
5. Anticipated outcomes of the program (and enhancements/expansions) are clearly and comprehensively described, realistic and attainable, and are well aligned with the goals of the funding and the proposed program.

6. Proposal includes a detailed, complete and reasonable work plan that fits with the timeline provided on page 3 of this document.
7. Proposed budget is reasonable (e.g., in relation to client reach, geographic area, number and complexity of planned enhancements), complete, and accurate.