

FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

PRINCIPLES OF PRACTICE

1. FVIP providers are advocates for victims of family and domestic violence who work to hold participants accountable for their acts of family and domestic violence. The highest priorities of FVIP providers are the safety, rights, and confidentiality of victims.
2. FVIP providers advocate that offenders of family and domestic violence be held accountable. FVIP providers should never collude with participants, minimize, tolerate or justify abusive and unacceptable behavior.
3. FVIP providers consult with victim advocates to ensure quality programming.
4. FVIP providers consistently act and communicate in ways that do not perpetuate discriminatory behavior, attitudes, or bias. FVIP providers treat all with dignity.
5. FVIP providers are not advocates or legal witnesses on behalf of participants and shall use caution when responding to requests for assessments, impressions, opinions, information, or testimony. FVIP providers will not state or imply that program completion will result in non-abusive behaviors or victim safety.
6. Anger management programs, couples counseling, and psychotherapy are not appropriate interventions for family and domestic violence and may place the victim at heightened risk. Ending violence and abuse and ensuring victim safety takes precedence over efforts to save relationships.
7. Educational group sessions must be the primary approach to family and domestic violence intervention. Substance abuse treatment, addictions treatment, and individual treatment are not appropriate interventions for family and domestic violence. However, providers may find participants benefit from these interventions separately, but only in addition to participation in an FVIP.
8. FVIPs alone do not create accountability. FVIP providers collaborate with community partners and participate in a larger coordinated community response to family and domestic violence.

