

**Cook County Behavioral Health Services Biannual Report  
December 2022 – May 2023**

**Name of Department(s): Circuit Court of Cook County, Adult Probation Department;  
Circuit Court of Cook County, Social Service Department**

**Data Contact Information: Jordan Boulger**

**Clinical Interventions: Contracted Partner Abuse Intervention Programming for Domestic Violence Offenders**

**A. Data on the population served, including a breakdown of where patients of the program reside in Cook County and the total year-to-date number of patients served.**

The Cook County Adult Probation Department and the Social Service Department provide probation supervision services for individuals convicted of misdemeanor and felony domestic violence offenses. Both departments make referrals to state-certified partner abuse intervention programs (PAIP) that are designed to reduce the future risk of domestic violence. Clients are referred to programming based on the charge of conviction (DV-related, involving an intimate partner, family member, or household member), a court mandate to attend PAIP, and a history of prior convictions. Eligible clients may live in any of the six Circuit Court district catchment areas (Chicago, Skokie, Rolling Meadows, Maywood, Bridgeview, and Markham).

During the most recent 24-month period, a total of 634 individuals have participated in PAIP groups after being referred by both departments. In the most recent six-month period for which data were available, there were 75 new clients referred and enrolled.

**B. Overall goals of the behavioral health program and information on the best practices in this type of programming.**

The PAIP services in this program are designed to provide an increased level of accountability for probation clients and to promote successful completion of probation.

The currently accepted best practice in PAIP services is the Duluth Model. This is an approach that was developed in Duluth, Minnesota that incorporates a feminist psycho-educational model of programming. The Duluth Model centers on using different “wheels” to describe battering behavior and the changes needed in offenders to move towards a non-abusive relationship. The main wheel is called the Power and Control Wheel that describes the behaviors used to control partners with the objective of educating batterers to help them explore beliefs that lead to these behaviors. This is used in conjunction with the Equality Wheel to help participants understand alternate ways to behave in relationships with partners, avoiding violence and controlling behavior.

The Duluth Model is rated Effective for reducing recidivism by crimesolutions.gov and Promising for reducing victimization.

**C. Information on the providers, managers, operators, and/or contractual personnel of the behavioral health care program, activity, or service, and any information on external partners working with your agency on this program.**

There are two referral pathways for the PAIP groups within probation; internal groups managed and run by the Social Service Department, and external groups managed and run by 13 contracted vendors. There is no known overlap in funding, as participation in PAIP groups is generally only mandated by the courts.

SSD's internal PAIP groups are run using two program modalities, including a program based on the Duluth model and one based on a cognitive behavioral therapy approach. The Duluth model uses a psychoeducational approach in a group setting to change abusive behavior of men who perpetrate domestic violence. The cognitive behavioral therapy groups use the "Bringing Peace to Relationships" curriculum to foster changes in thinking and behavior. These internal groups are facilitated by two full-time, state licensed Social Service staff and they accept referred clients from both Social Service and Adult Probation. State licensing is a voluntary measure taken to ensure program quality.

The external groups are facilitated by 13 contracted vendors who must be state certified to provide PAIP services. These referrals are subsidized by both departments according to the terms of each contract. Vendors provide coverage for different areas of the county to maximize attendance and compliance with the program. The vendors are Avance, Behavioral Services, Center for Domestic Peace, Crisis Center, Healthcare Alternative Systems, Kirby Rehabilitation, Lakar Enterprise, Pathway to Peace, Polish American Association, Salvation Army, Sarah's Inn, South Suburban Family Shelter, and Universal Family Connection.

**D. Key performance indicators that are used to measure the results of the program.**

- Total number of participants referred
- Total number of participants served
- Total number of clients who do not complete the program
- Total number of participants who complete the program

**E. Quality measures or expectations for contracts involved in the program.**

All contracted vendors are required to be approved by the Illinois Department of Human Services to deliver PAIP services. This includes compliance with all relevant DHS mandates and protocols.

Vendors are also expected to conduct an assessment within 20 days of referral; to provide a minimum of 36 hours of group counseling for each offender referred; and to limit group size to 15 individuals.

**F. Information on how the care being provided in this program serves the best interests of the patient/recipient of care.**

Clients who are referred to PAIP services work in a group setting that uses a psycho-educational model to help them examine their experiences, beliefs, and feelings to help identify changes that they can make to their behavior. This approach helps clients understand how different belief structures support the use of abusive and controlling behavior and helps them explore how these beliefs can be changed to become more productive.

Domestic violence and abuse also greatly affect the communities where our clients live. The services provided through PAIP groups often seek to reach out to victims and survivors to link them to services they may need, including safety planning.

**G. Information on the participant's continuum of care plan and whether the participant has received follow-up care at a Cook County hospital(s) or clinic(s) including medication management as a part of aftercare.**

Many of our PAIP providers offer other behavioral health or support services in addition to domestic violence interventions. By engaging with these providers, including in-house groups, clients can receive referrals to address other behavioral health needs or wraparound service needs. Through the probation supervision process, clients also have access to information on health care, linkages to County Care navigators, and other services.

**H. An evaluation of the impact of the program and an overview of its effectiveness, particularly as it pertains to vulnerable populations, racial and ethnic minorities; and populations facing disparities in behavioral health outcomes, behavioral health care, and behavioral healthcare access.**

We do not have any program evaluations for this intervention at this time.

**I. Information with the costs associated with the program and funding sources.**

Adult Probation and Social Service contract with 13 PAIP providers across Cook County. Each of the providers has a unique contract value, ranging from \$80,000 to \$411,050 for three years with the option of two 1-year renewals. The total contract value across all 13 vendors is \$2,076,050. Funding for these contracts comes from the special purpose funds from both departments, where each department pays for clients referred by its staff.

Social Service operates internal groups using two full-time staff dedicated to facilitating PAIP groups. Compensation for these two staff includes \$173,280, of which \$35,000 is grant-funded. Both facilitators are funded through the Social Service Department's corporate budget.

**J. Any additional information which may facilitate the Committee's understanding of the program, initiative, or activity.**

Not applicable

**K. Any additional information which may foster a more accurate assessment of behavioral health care needs and opportunities for collaboration or growth within the Cook County Government's efforts around behavioral health care programs.**

Not applicable