The Greenbook Project recognizes that national statistics indicate women represent 95% of domestic violence victims. The project addresses all adult victims of domestic violence and their abused and neglected children.
The Greenbook Project

Greenbook Systems’ Team Updates...

**Court**

*Walking a case through the system*

The Court Team has determined the most effective way to approach its system’s goals is to follow domestic violence and child abuse/neglect cases through a step-by-step process. The Project will review the *Protocols Relative to Abuse and Neglect Cases and Permanency Planning* and the *Domestic Violence District Court Protocol* through a “Greenbook” lens. The objective is to determine at what points in the court process the court may consider new approaches in cases involving the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse/neglect. Among the first steps is for the Project to research mechanisms the court may want to use to identify co-occurrence cases. If a co-occurrence case is identified, it could follow a track that addresses issues particular to these types of cases. The Court Team will be seeking input from the DCYF and Crisis Centers/Coalition Teams on proposed practice changes.

**DCYF**

*Attorney training*

DCYF attorneys from across the state attended a full-day training June 27, 2003 in Plymouth on domestic violence issues in child protection cases. The DCYF Attorneys’ Toolbox for Child Protection Cases Involving Domestic Violence was co-sponsored by DCYF and The Greenbook Project. Attorney Leigh Goodmark of the American Bar Association’s Center on Children and the Law was the featured speaker for the conference, which focused on the dynamics of domestic violence, the effects of domestic violence on children and linking information to practice. DCYF Director Nancy Rollins, Dr. Scott Hampton of Ending the Violence and Karen McCall of the NHCADSV also presented at the training.

**Crisis Centers/Coalition**

*Safety Planning*

The Crisis Centers/Coalition Team has developed a philosophical statement on safety planning. The statement is designed to set the stage for the next step in addressing the goal to “enhance victim-centered safety planning and enhance child-centered safety planning.” The statement reads:

“As advocates for victims of domestic violence, we believe in victim-centered safety planning. Victim-centered safety planning starts from the victim’s perspective, integrating the advocate’s knowledge and resources into the victim’s framework. It is an ongoing process that involves looking at danger indicators in a family, which include more than threats to immediate physical harm, such as threats to long term physical and emotional well-being. Victim-centered safety planning values the thoughts, feelings and experiences of the victim and formulates strategies for prevention of further violence. The victim is the decision-maker, the one who knows best, and the one with the power.”

The Team will be developing a packet on safety planning that includes information for advocates to use when working with victims as well as information for victims to safety plan with their children.
Consultant Olga Trujillo, JD (left) and Lonna Davis (right) of the Family Violence Prevention Fund facilitated multi-disciplinary meetings on information sharing in January and April 2003. Trujillo and Davis have been working with the Courts, Division for Children, Youth and Families, CASA, NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, and the four crisis centers serving Grafton County to develop principles and mechanisms for effective information sharing. Recent progress on this issue has included agreement on several operating principles to serve as guidance for specific information sharing practices among the systems. Work Group members will be gathering input from within their systems for each agreed upon operating principle. Specific steps to implement the principles into practice are being formulated for review and consideration by the multidisciplinary Work Group, with corresponding input from each system to follow.
Visit the Website for:

- A Calendar of Events for The Grafton County Greenbook Project
- Information about the six federally funded demonstration sites
- A downloadable version of *Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence & Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice* (The Greenbook)
- An overview of the federal Greenbook Initiative
- Resources and links pertaining to the intersection of domestic violence and child maltreatment