The Greenbook Project is a federal initiative designed to bring together the court system, child protective services and domestic violence agencies to better address the needs of families when there is the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect. Grafton County is among six demonstration sites in the country selected to participate in the five year project. Greenbook is the nickname for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges’ publication, *Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence & Child Maltreatment Cases: Guidelines for Policy and Practice*. The publication and more information about the Project are available at [www.thegreenbook.info](http://www.thegreenbook.info).

**Baseline Evaluation Report**

Local Research Partners Kathy Kopiec and Glenda Kaufman Kantor have completed The Greenbook Project’s Baseline Evaluation Report: Primary Partner and Cross Systems Goals. The report presents all baseline data collected for the local evaluation of the Project, including information from focus groups, interviews, surveys, court files, DCYF files, and the primary partners’ databases.

The researchers will compare the baseline data from 2001 to the data collected at the end of the Project to determine how well the systems met their individual and cross systems goals.

Much of the information in the baseline report was released in previous reports issued as certain data were gathered and analyzed.

**Key Findings**

*The following provides some, but not all, of the key findings in the report. Please note these are selected findings and much more information that puts all findings into context is contained in the full report:

* There were positive working relationships and interagency collaboration among the court, DCYF and crisis centers and NH Coalition.

* There were positive working relationships and interagency collaboration among the court, DCYF and crisis centers and NH Coalition.

* In DCYF cases involving domestic violence, one-third of perpetrators were ordered to participate in batterer intervention programs.

* The most often mentioned service gaps in Grafton County included affordable housing or housing assistance and mental health services.

* Batterers enrolled in batterer intervention programs were able to identify behaviors in their children that they attributed to the children’s witnessing of domestic violence. For some batterers, the awareness of impact did not appear to carry over into understanding the rationale behind orders for no contact with their children.

* Large proportions of defendants in civil domestic violence cases had concurrent or prior court involvement, but only a small proportion of files contained this information.

* The types of visitation arrangements ordered in domestic violence cases varied widely.
**Children’s Exposure to Battering**

In October 2004, the cross systems Work Group began a conversation on the complicated issue of if and when children’s exposure to battering rises to the level of mandatory child abuse reporting and intervention. The exploration led to a discussion about systems’ responses to such situations and how those factor into the discussion. The Group will continue to explore this important topic in the months ahead, focusing on what systems already do well and what areas need to be improved.

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**Batterer Accountability**

In an effort to meet the cross systems goal to “increase batterer accountability,” the Project has taken several steps to build capacity among service providers who interact with perpetrators.

In November 2004, Greenbook held a three-day conference, Emerge & Fathering After Violence, in Plymouth. Among the 60 participants were batterer intervention providers from across the state, and representatives from DCYF, Juvenile Probation and Parole Services, Family Division, crisis centers, NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, CASA, and the NH Department of Corrections.

The first two days of the conference were spent on the Emerge Model of Batterer Intervention Programs, presented by David Adams, Ed.D and Christopher Hall of Emerge, the first such program in the country. The training addresses one of the NH Batterer Intervention Standards, which requires program facilitators to participate in training in a nationally-recognized model. The training covered the history of batterer intervention programs and an overview of the Emerge Model, including its educational curriculum and activities. Participants also had the opportunity to engage in a role play that illustrated some methods of effective group facilitation.

On the third day of the conference, Juan Carlos Arean of the Family Violence Prevention Fund talked about the Fund’s new Fathering After Violence Project. The presentation included information on the cultural context of fathering and the Project’s exercises that are intended to be used in batterer intervention groups.

In June 2002, the Project sponsored a conference to raise awareness about batterer accountability in general and to introduce the NH Batterer Intervention Standards. That event was followed by a conference in January 2003 that covered the information contained in the NH Batterer Intervention Standards in-depth.
Plymouth, NH ~ On November 17, 2004, Juan Carlos Arean of the Family Violence Prevention Fund presented on the Fund’s Fathering After Violence Project to nearly 60 participants in a three-day conference dedicated to building the capacity of service providers and systems to address accountability for batterers in cases involving the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect.
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