

Battering Intervention Program

Battering Intervention Program (BIP) is the most commonly accepted intervention for perpetrators of intimate partner violence in the United States. BIP is structured as a set of curriculum-based, psycho-educational group classes, the main purpose of which is to hold offenders accountable and to ensure victims' safety. Participants learn to take responsibility for abusive behavior and explore the negative effects of violence.

DHS partners with local nonprofit agencies, Allegheny County's Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, the District Attorney's Office, the Allegheny County Jail and intimate partner violence experts to create a coordinated system that holds batterers accountable and reduces risks to victims' safety. Most participants are referred to the program through the courts. A significant number of referrals to BIPs stem from plea agreements offered by the District Attorney at the preliminary hearing stage, after consultation with the victim. Batterers can also be referred to the programs through other sources, such as the Probation Office, voluntary self-referrals and any of DHS's program offices. Any agency or individual can contact BIP providers to schedule an intake interview and assessment.

In Allegheny County, BIP classes are offered in multiple locations and consist of 24 sequential sessions. The curriculum may vary by agency, but most organizations use either the [Duluth Model](#) or [Emerge](#), the most commonly-recognized and promising BIP interventions in the United States. Interpretation is available for individuals with limited English proficiency, if such need arises.

General inquires about BIP in Allegheny County can be sent to BattererIntervention@AlleghenyCounty.US